

1

PARASYTE

HITOSHI
IWAOKI

PARASYTE 1

HITOSHI IWAOKI

TRANSLATED AND ADAPTED BY ANDREW CUNNINGHAM
LETTERED BY FOLTZ DESIGN



BALLANTINE BOOKS • NEW YORK

Parasyte volume 1 is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

A Del Rey Trade Paperback Original

Parasyte volume 1 copyright © 1990 by Hitoshi Iwaaki
English translation copyright © 2007 by Hitoshi Iwaaki

All rights reserved.

Published in the United States by Del Rey Books, an imprint of The Random House Publishing Group, a division of Random House, Inc., New York.

DEL REY is a registered trademark and the Del Rey colophon is a trademark of Random House, Inc.

Publication rights arranged through Kodansha Ltd.

First published in Japan in 1990 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

ISBN 978-0-345-49624-9

Printed in the United States of America

www.delreymanga.com

9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Translator/adaptor: Andrew Cunningham
Lettering: Foltz Design

CONTENTS

HONORIFICS EXPLAINED	iv
PARASYTE, VOLUME 1	1
TRANSLATION NOTES	273
PREVIEW OF VOLUME 2	277

HONORIFICS EXPLAINED

Throughout the Del Rey Manga books, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), is used as a title at the end of one's name, or appears in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei" or simply "Sensei!").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy at Del Rey not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in Del Rey Manga.

- san:** This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., or Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.
- sama:** This is one level higher than "-san" and is used to confer great respect.
- dono:** This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is even a higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.
- kun:** This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms “kid” and “squirt.”

Sempai/

Senpai: This title suggests that the addressee is one’s senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as “sempai.” It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

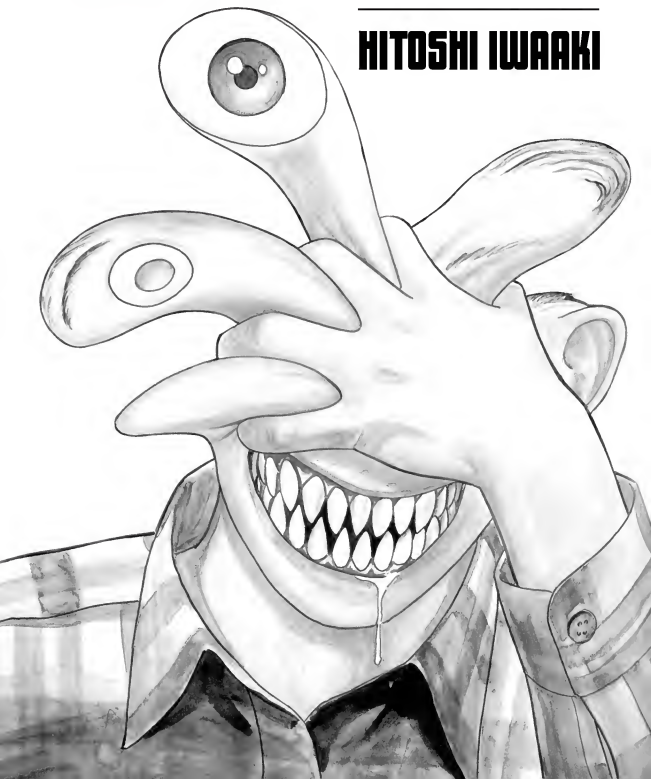
Kohai: This is the opposite of “sempai,” and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning “one who has come before,” this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

-[blank]: This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobisute*, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one’s name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn’t been earned, it can be very insulting.

PARASYTE 1

HITOSHI IWAOKI



CONTENTS



CHAPTER 1: INVASION	3
CHAPTER 2: WILD ANIMAL	43
CHAPTER 3: CONTACT	79
CHAPTER 4: KILLER'S AURA	117
CHAPTER 5: STUOYHOLIC	143
CHAPTER 6: TAMIYA RYŌKO	167
CHAPTER 7: ATTACK	191
CHAPTER 8: SPECIES	221
CHAPTER 9: MOTHER	245

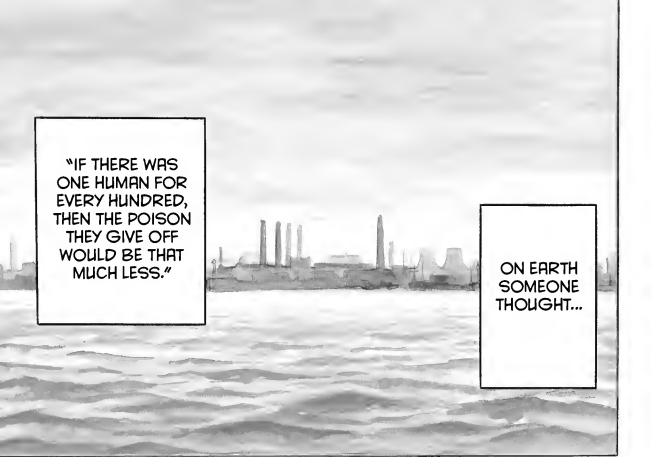
CHAPTER 1: INVASION





ON EARTH
SOMEONE
THOUGHT...

"IF THERE
WERE HALF THE
NUMBER OF
HUMANS, HOW
MANY FEWER
FORESTS WOULD
WE BURN?"



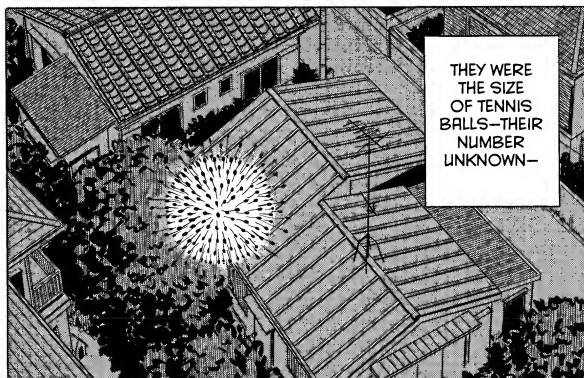
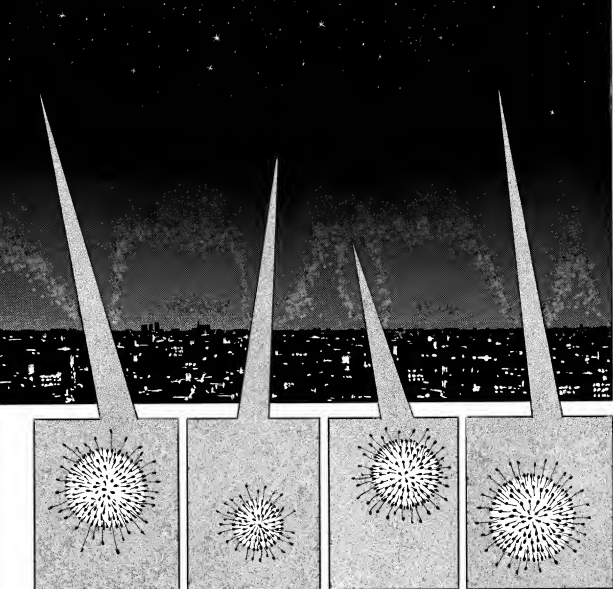
"IF THERE WAS
ONE HUMAN FOR
EVERY HUNDRED,
THEN THE POISON
THEY GIVE OFF
WOULD BE THAT
MUCH LESS."

ON EARTH
SOMEONE
THOUGHT...

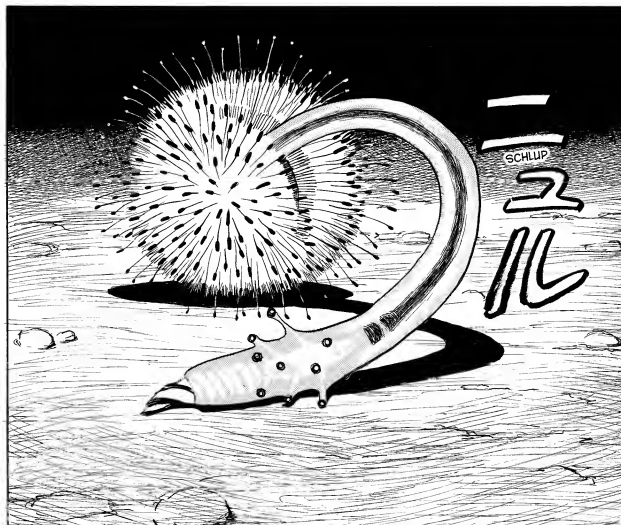
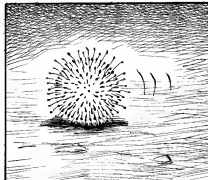
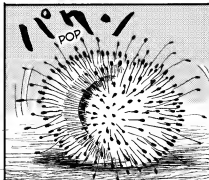
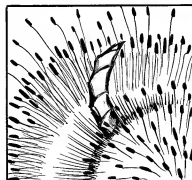
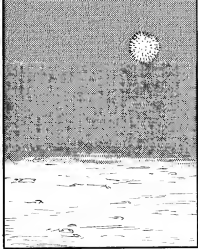
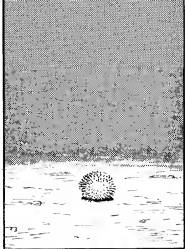
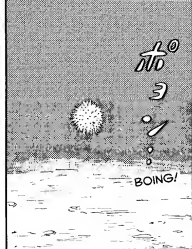


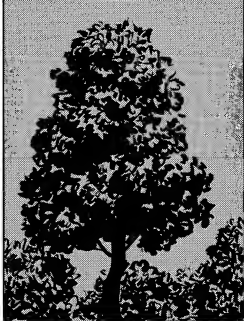
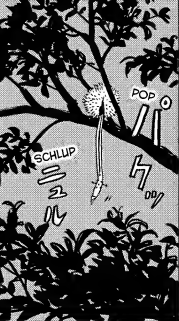
SOMEONE
THOUGHT,
"WE HAVE TO
PROTECT THE
FUTURE OF
ALL LIFE..."

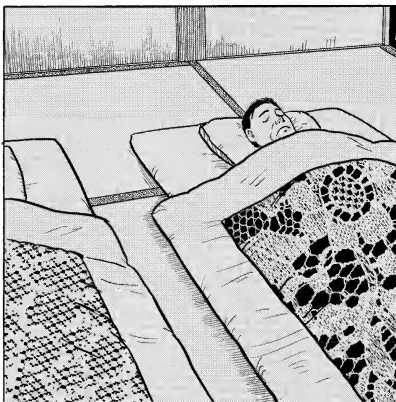
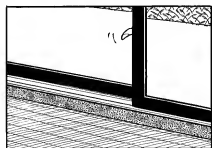
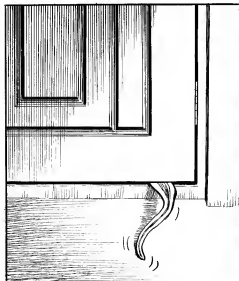


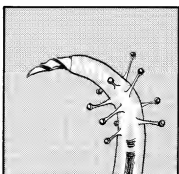
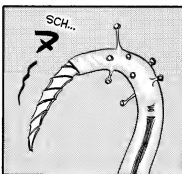
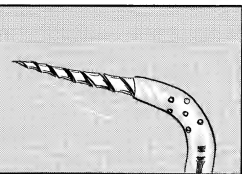
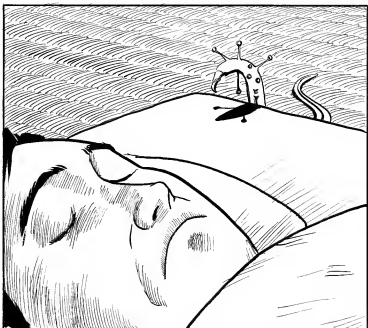
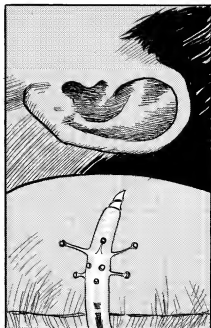


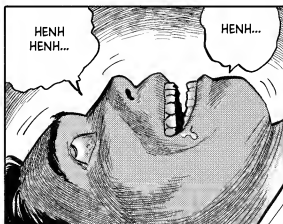
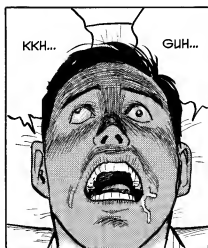
THEY WERE
THE SIZE
OF TENNIS
BALLS—THEIR
NUMBER
UNKNOWN—

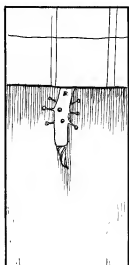
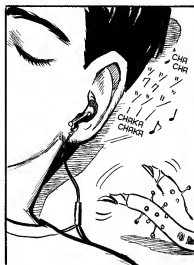


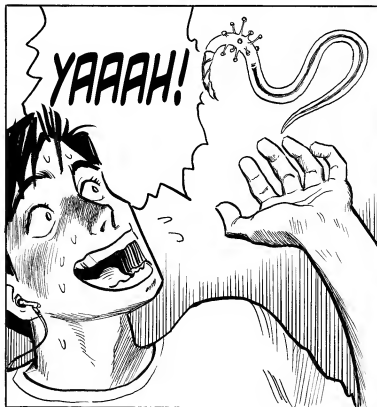
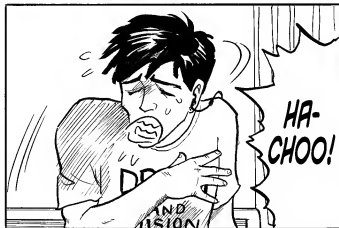
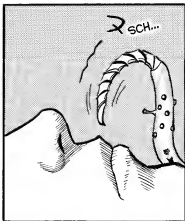






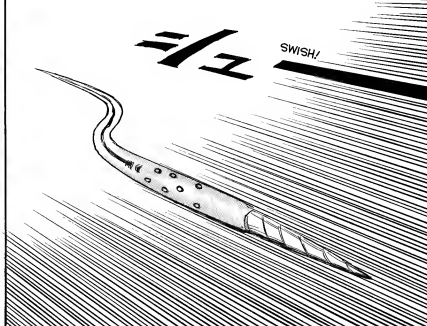


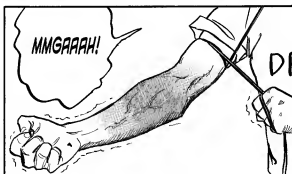
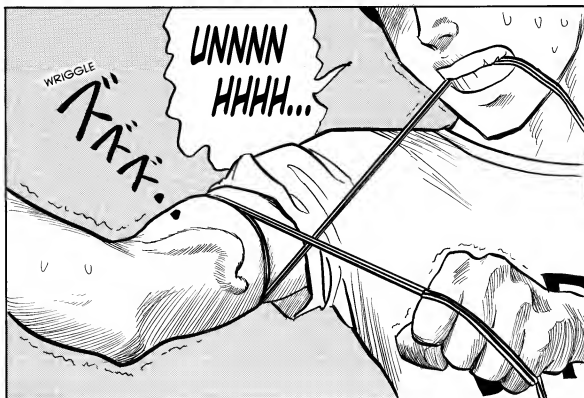
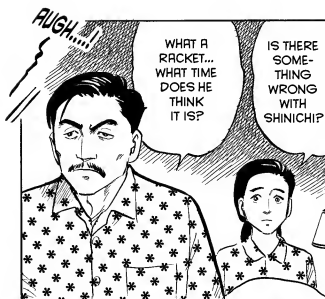


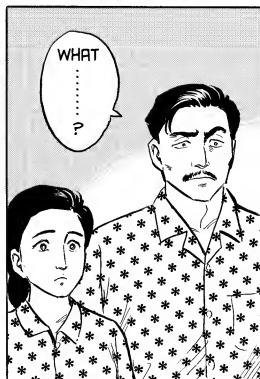


A SNAKE!
THERE'S A
SNAKE IN MY
ROOM! HOW
THE HELL DID
IT GET IN?

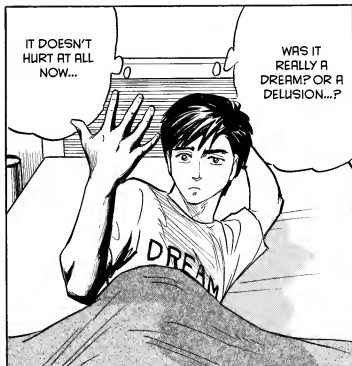


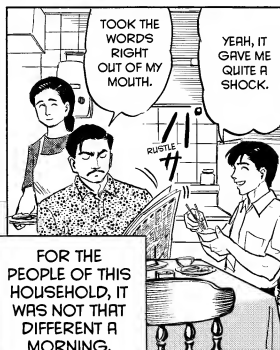
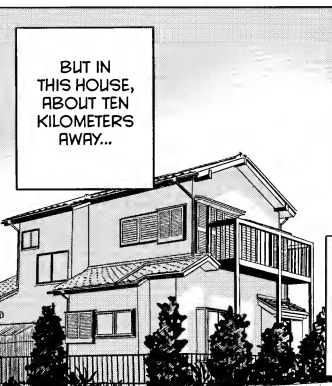




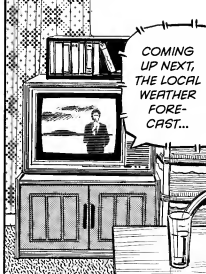






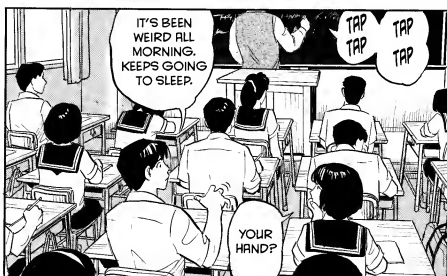


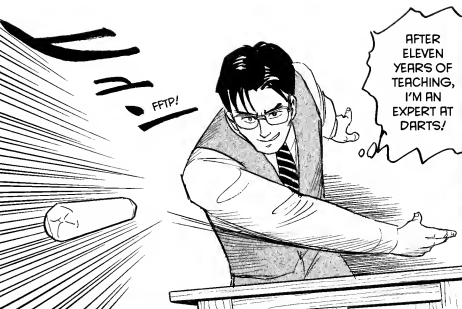


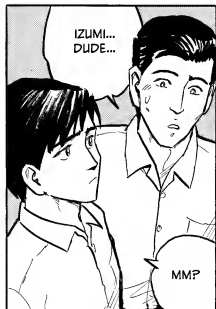
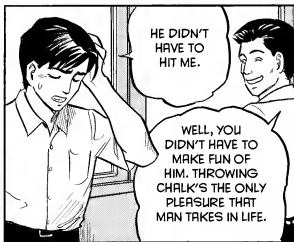








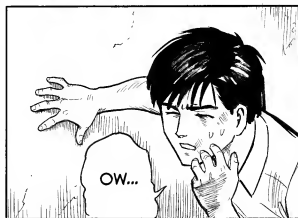
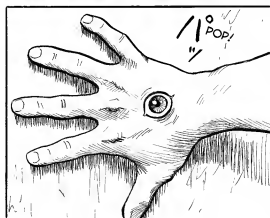












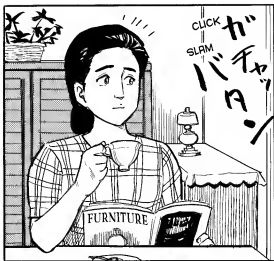


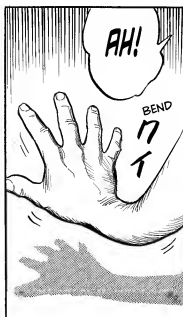
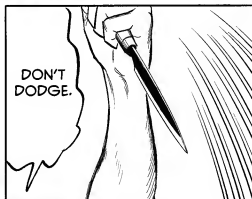


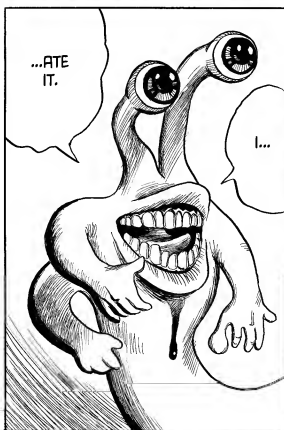


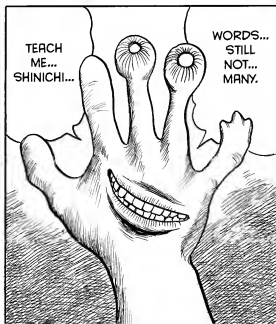
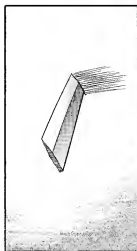


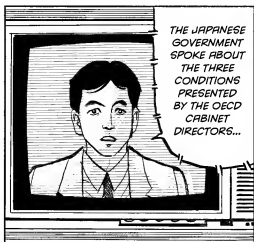


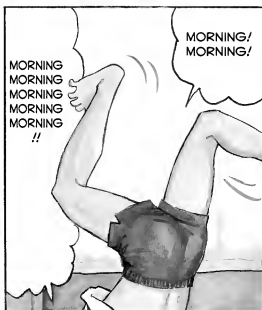
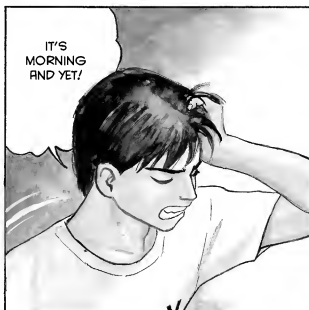
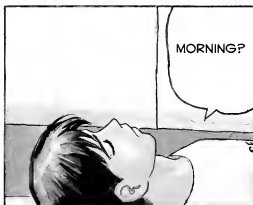








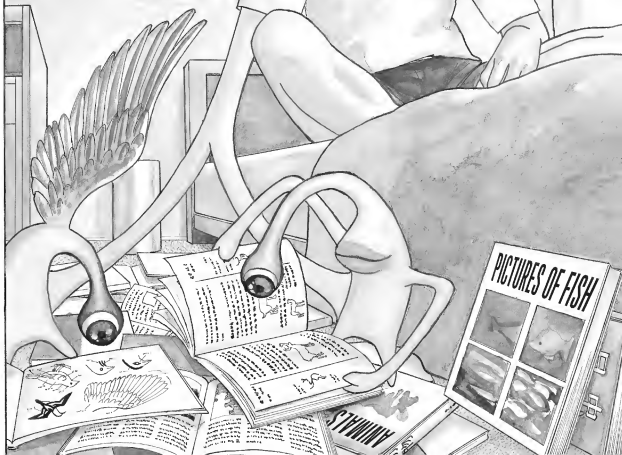


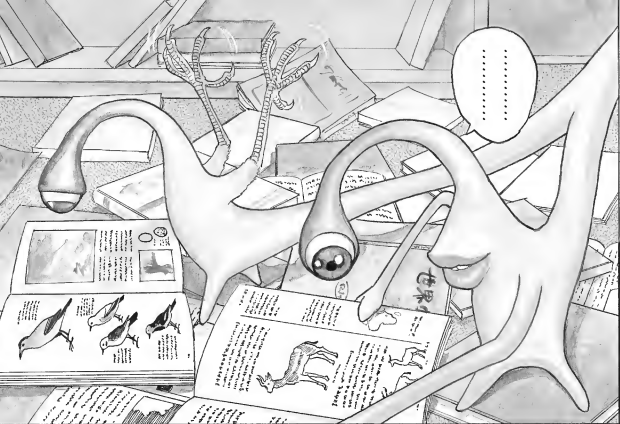


CHAPTER 2: WILD ANIMAL

THIS
NIGHT-
MARE JUST
WON'T
END.

MISERY
CONFUSION

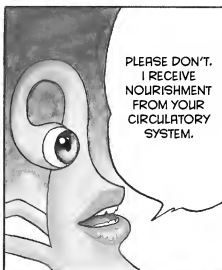






...WHICH
MEANS IF YOU
AMPUTATE ME
I WILL WITHER
AND DIE.

MORE
POLITE
THAN IT
LOOKS...



PLEASE DON'T.
I RECEIVE
NOURISHMENT
FROM YOUR
CIRCULATORY
SYSTEM.



...THAT
YOU ATE
MY RIGHT
HAND!

BUT YOU
TOLD ME
YESTER-
DAY...



IT'S
BAD
FOR
BOTH OF
US.

AND YOU
WILL LOSE
YOUR RIGHT
HAND,
SHINICHI.

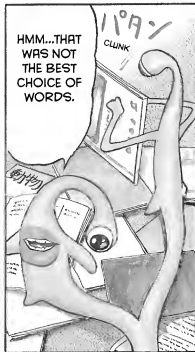


EH
.....
!?

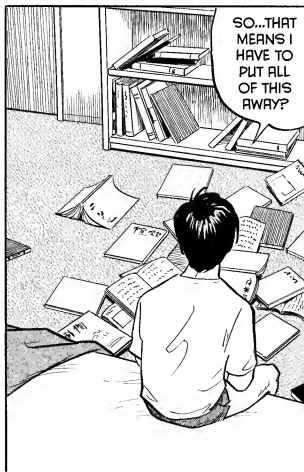


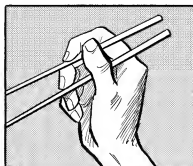
WHILE I AM
SLEEPING,
I WILL
CONNECT
THE
CHANNELS
SO THAT YOU
CAN USE
YOUR HAND
AS YOU
PLEASE.

HOW
ABOUT
THIS...

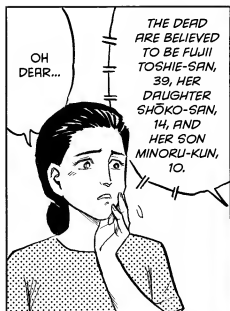


HMM...THAT
WAS NOT
THE BEST
CHOICE OF
WORDS.

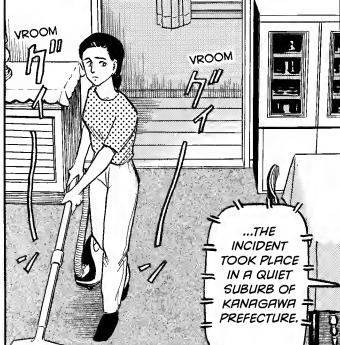








THE DEAD
ARE BELIEVED
TO BE FUJII
TOSHIE-SAN,
39, HER
DAUGHTER
SHŌKO-SAN,
14, AND
HER SON
MINORU-KUN,
10.



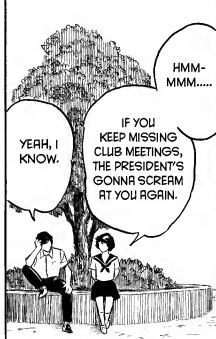
THE HUSBAND,
45, HAS BEEN
MISSING SINCE
THE INCIDENT, AND
THE POLICE ARE
SEARCHING FOR
HIM AS A
POTENTIAL
SUSPECT.



THE
BODIES WERE
MUTILATED,
THOUGH THE
METHOD OF
MURDER IS NOT
KNOWN AND NO
WEAPON HAS
BEEN FOUND.







YEAH, I KNOW.

HMM-
MMM.....

IF YOU
KEEP MISSING
CLUB MEETINGS,
THE PRESIDENT'S
GONNA SCREAM
AT YOU AGAIN.



YEAH,
I FELT
SICK...

YOU
WENT
HOME
EARLY
YESTER-
DAY?



HEY....



ANY-
WAY...



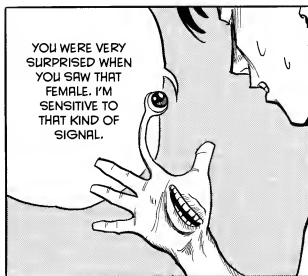
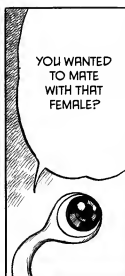
OH....
AWAKE
ALREADY?



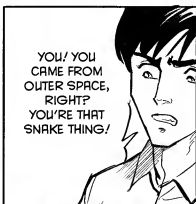
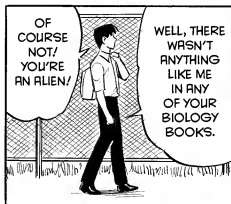
STRANGE
GIRL....

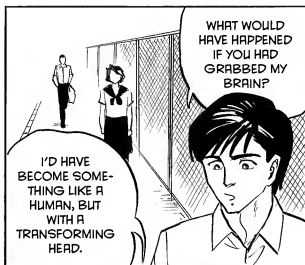


SHINICHI.

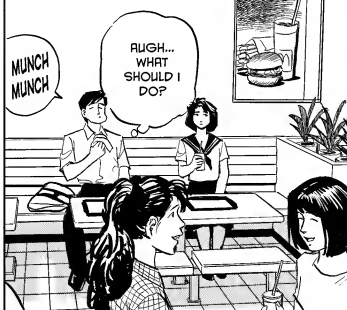
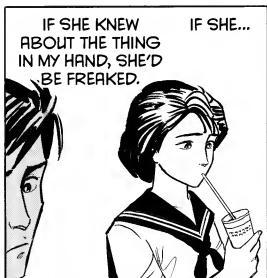














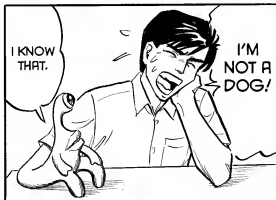
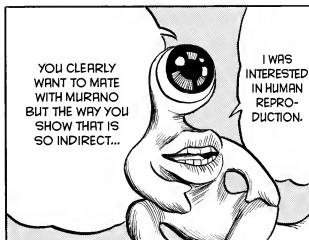


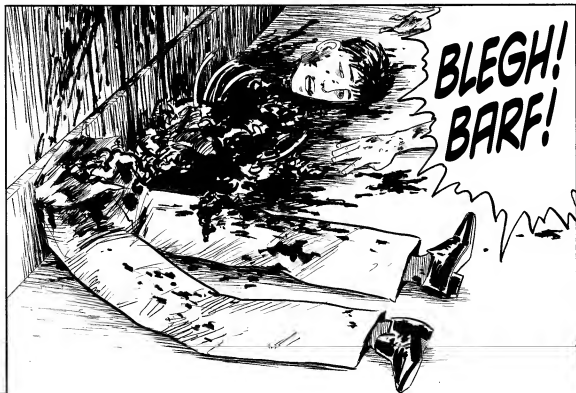
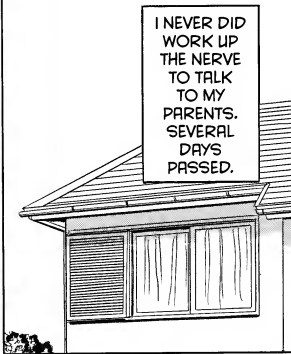
RIGHT?



WHAT
ARE YOU
SAYING!/?









EEEEEEK!

NAKAMURA-SAN! YOUR LAUNDRY'S GETTING WET!

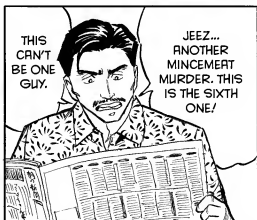
MIYAGI
PREFECTURE,
△
×
CITY

IS SHE
OUT?



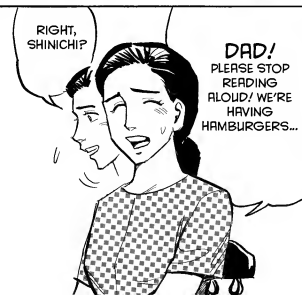
MUST BE
SOME
CRAZY
CULT.

I CAN'T
BELIEVE
HUMANS
WOULD DO
THIS...



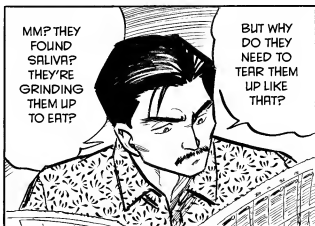
THIS
CAN'T
BE ONE
GUY.

JEEZ...
ANOTHER
MINCEMERT
MURDER. THIS
IS THE SIXTH
ONE!



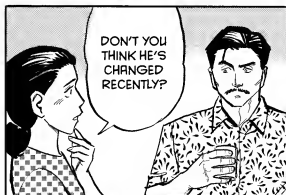
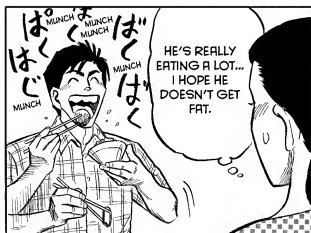
RIGHT,
SHINICHI?

DAD!
PLEASE STOP
READING
ALoud! WE'RE
HAVING
HAMBURGERS...

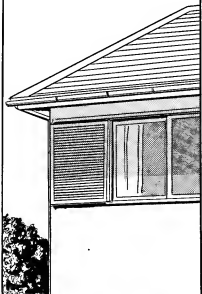
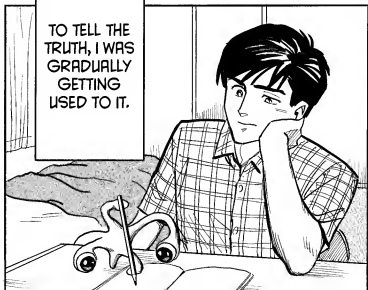


MM? THEY
FOUND
SALIVA? THEY'RE
GRINDING
THEM UP
TO EAT?

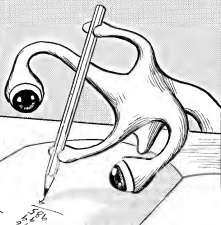
BUT WHY
DO THEY
NEED TO
TEAR THEM
UP LIKE
THAT?



TO TELL THE TRUTH, I WAS GRADUALLY GETTING USED TO IT.



AND IT WAS LOOKING AFTER MY BODY. PROBABLY BECAUSE,



IT SEEMED TO HAVE GOTTEN USED TO HUMAN SOCIETY. IT STOPPED ACTING WEIRD AND DIDN'T DO ANYTHING I DIDN'T WANT IT TO.

AS A PARASITE, IT WAS JUST PROTECTING ITSELF, BUT...



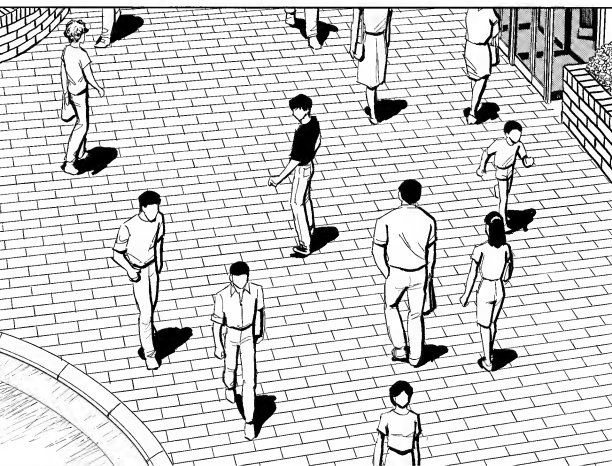
DO YOU WANT A NAME?

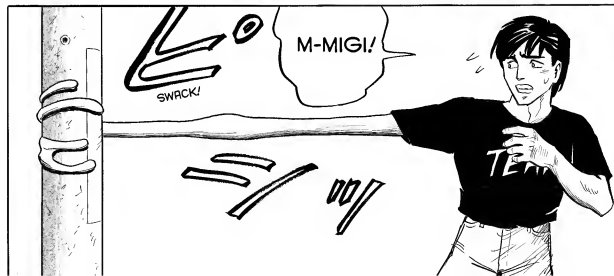
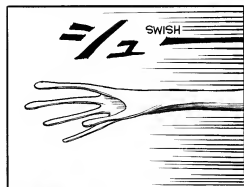
NO. I AM NOT HUMAN, NOR AM I A PET.

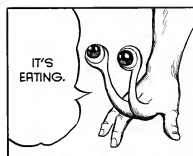
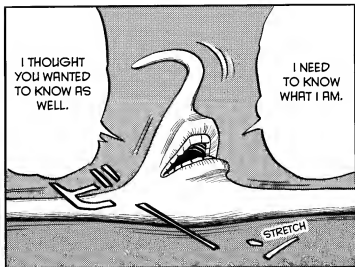


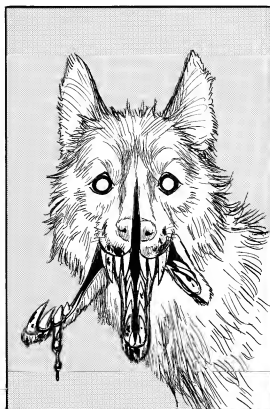
BUT I WAS STARTING TO THINK THIS MIGHT WORK OUT BETTER THAN EXPECTED.

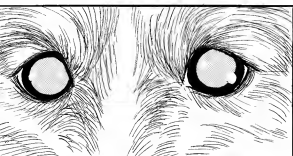
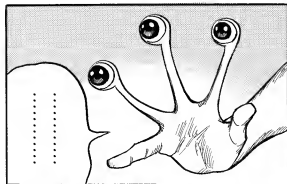
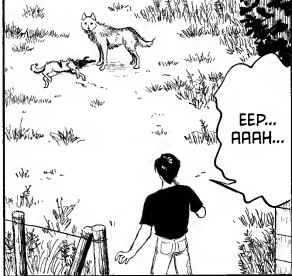


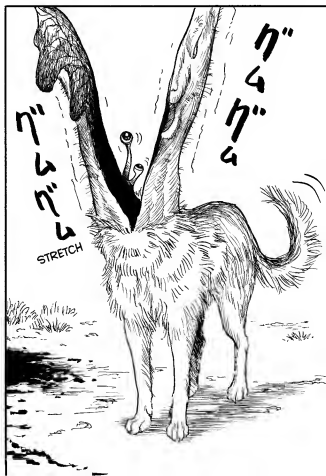
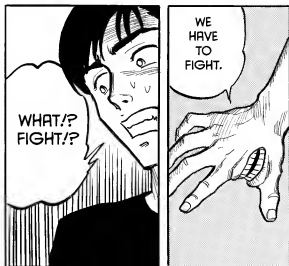
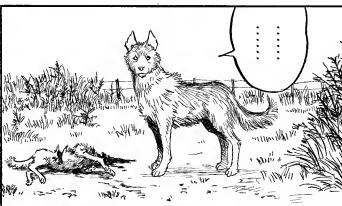


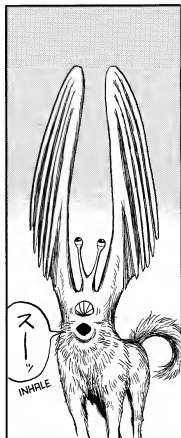
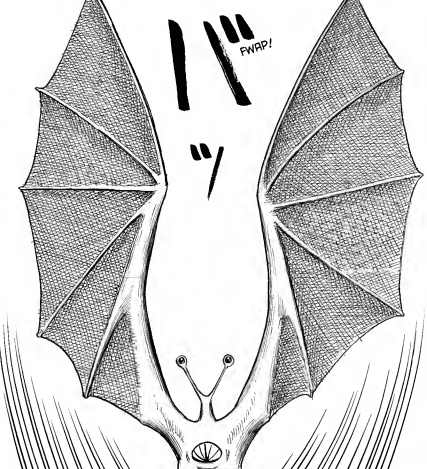


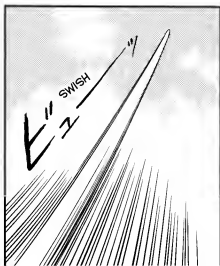
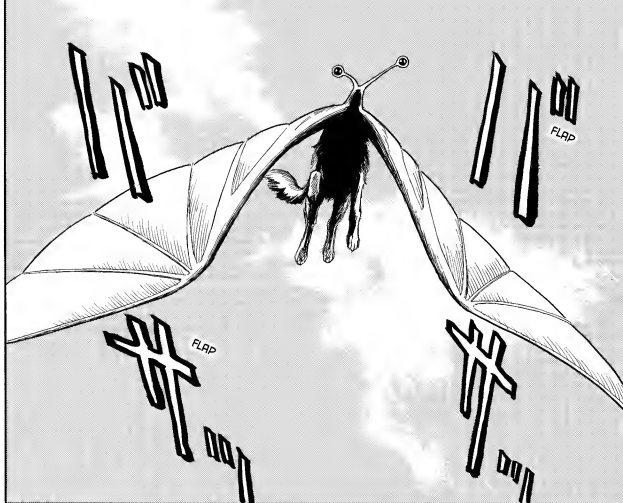


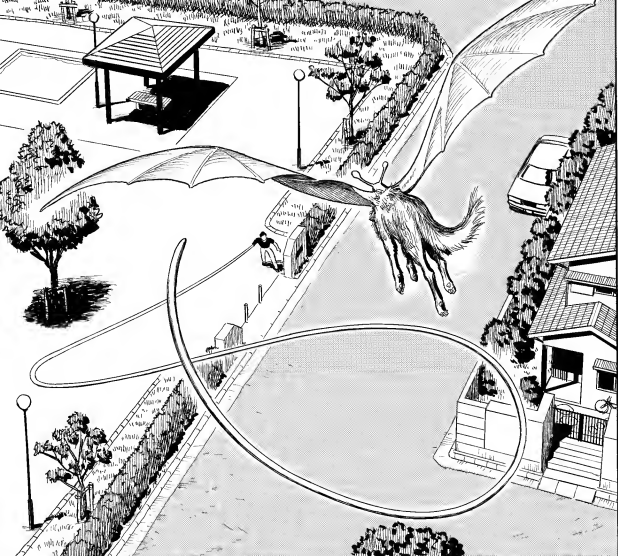


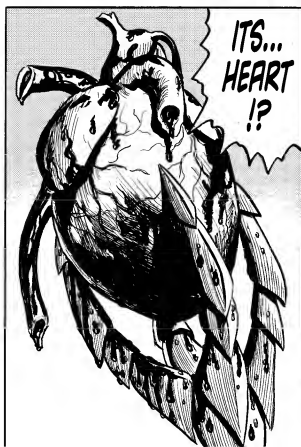
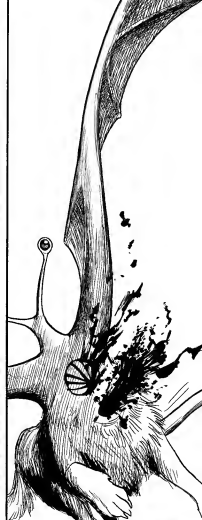


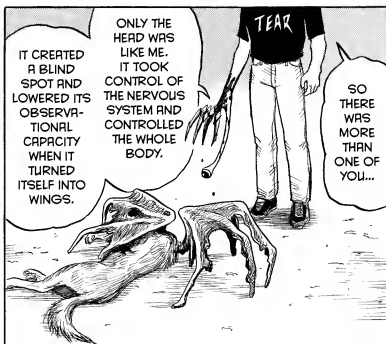














THAT'S
WHY I
WON.



A DOG...
IT HADN'T
LEARNED MUCH,
EVEN FOR THE
HOST IT
MATURED IN.



IT SCARED ME,
THEN. ITS LACK
OF SYMPATHY...
LIKE WE WERE
TALKING ABOUT
AN INSECT.



IT...

I REMEM-
BERED THE
MINCEMEAT
MURDERS
HAPPENING
ALL OVER THE
COUNTRY...



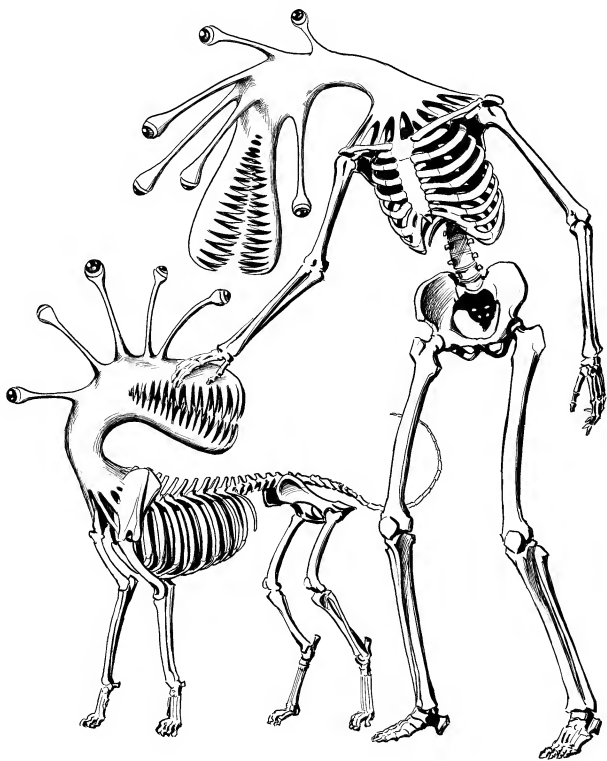
AND
THEN...

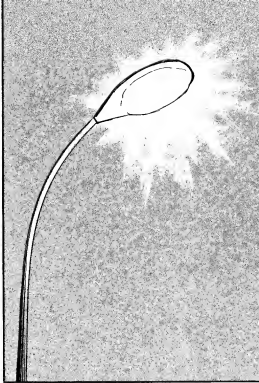
SHHH...
シ
ッ

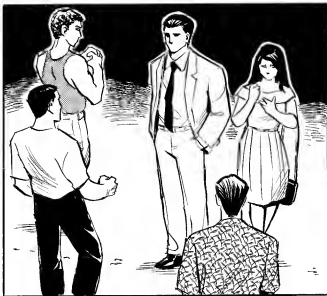
SHINICHI/
COLD!

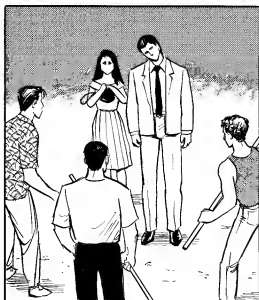
CHAPTER 2: THE END

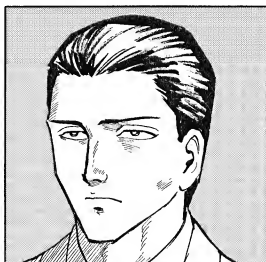
CHAPTER 3: CONTACT





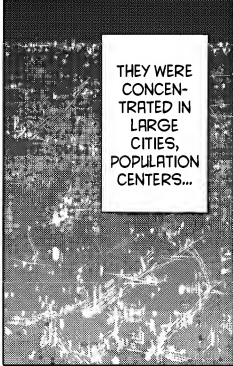










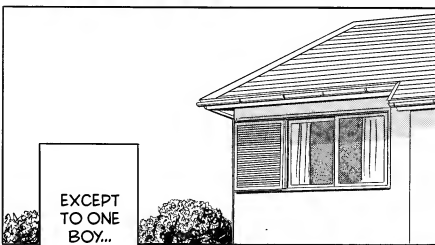


THEY WERE
CONCENTRATED IN
LARGE
CITIES,
POPULATION
CENTERS...



THE
MINCE-
MEAT
MURDERS

MUTILATED
BODIES
WERE BEING
FOUND ALL
OVER THE
WORLD.

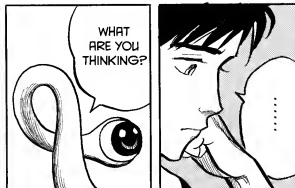
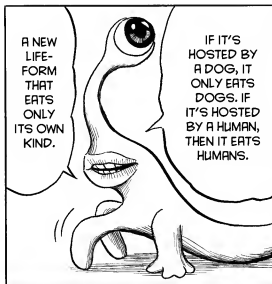


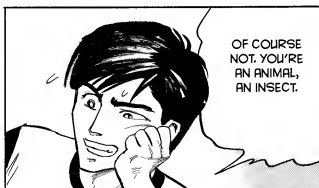
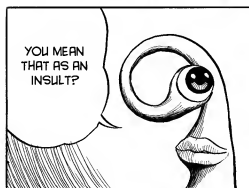
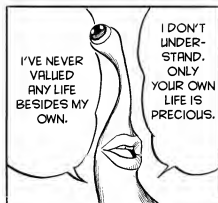
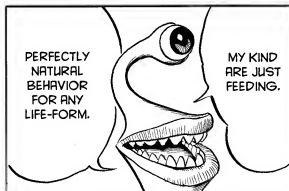
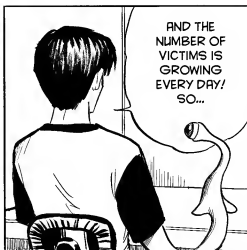
EXCEPT
TO ONE
BOY...

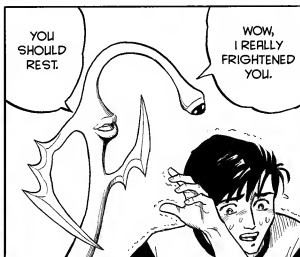
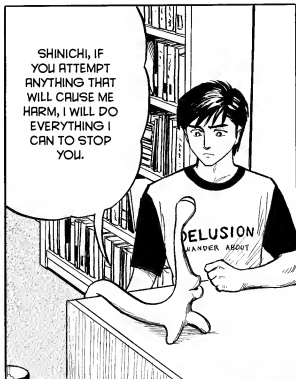
BUT THE
IDENTITY OF
THE "ENEMY"—
PEOPLE HAD
ALREADY
STOPPED USING
"KILLER"—
REMAINED A
MYSTERY.



DELUSION







HUMANS KILL AND
EAT ALL KINDS
OF SPECIES, BUT
MY KIND ONLY
EAT ONE OR TWO.
COMPARATIVELY
FEW.



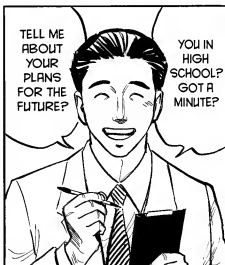
SHINICHI...
I READ ABOUT
"DEMONS" IN
THIS BOOK.
BUT I THINK
THE LIFE-FORM
THAT MOST
RESEMBLES
THEM IS YOU
HUMANS.

GOING
OUT,
SHINICHI?

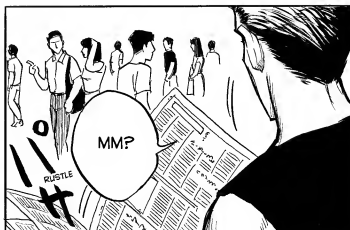
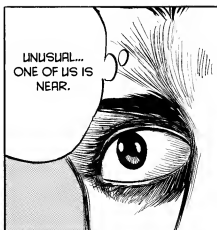


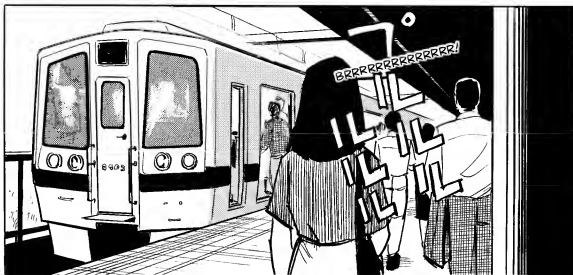
I DON'T
WANT TO
HEAR THAT
KIND OF
LOGIC.



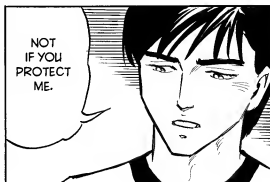
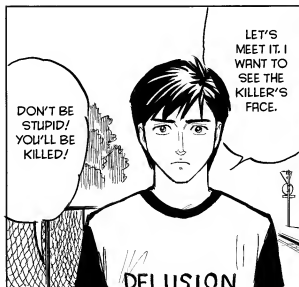














YOU CAN'T
TELL ME
TO DO
NOTHING!

OTHER HUMANS ARE
BEING KILLED...
AND I KNOW WHO'S
KILLING THEM.



FOR
MAN-
KIND!

I'LL
FIGHT!



BUT I NEED
YOUR
STRENGTH.
HELP ME.



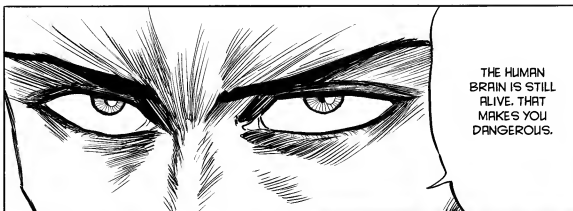
FIVE
METERS
AWAY.

PLEASE,
MIGI!



THAT'S
WHY YOU
RAN.

I SEE.



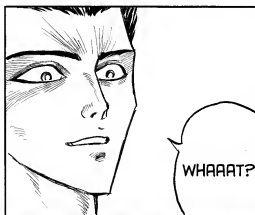
THE HUMAN
BRAIN IS STILL
ALIVE. THAT
MAKES YOU
DANGEROUS.



SCRUNCH



M-
MONSTER!



WHAAAT?

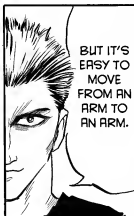
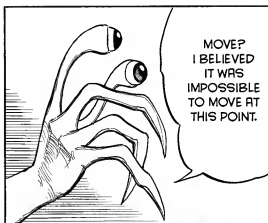


WHOOAH,
WHOOAH. OKAY,
I SEE YOUR
POINT, MR.
RIGHT HAND.

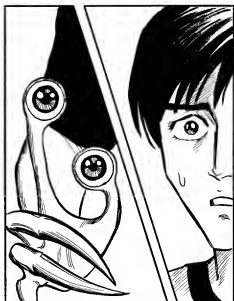


DON'T MOVE!
IF YOU ATTACK THIS
HUMAN, I'LL HAVE TO
KILL YOU.

DELUSION
WANDER ABOUT





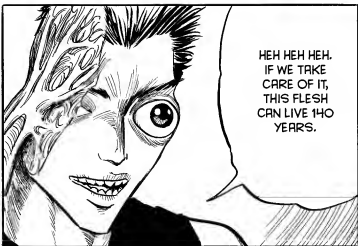


NOW COME ON!
BECOME MY
RIGHT ARM! IF
THERE'S TWO
OF US IN ONE
BODY WE'LL
BE EVEN
STRONGER!

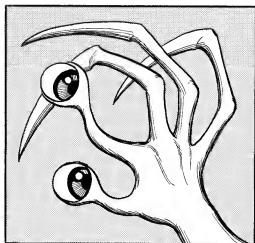


I'M
WASTING
BLOOD!

WHAT'S
WRONG!?
KILL THE
HUMAN AND
COME TO
ME!



HEH HEH HEH.
IF WE TAKE
CARE OF IT,
THIS FLESH
CAN LIVE 140
YEARS.

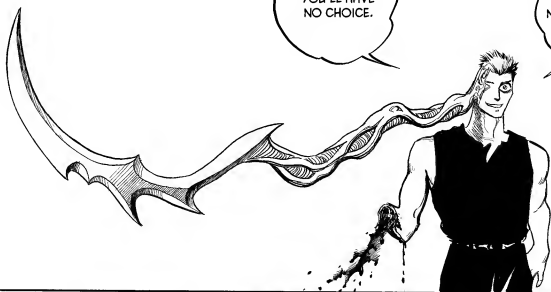


M-MIGI...



BUT IF I CUT
THAT HUMAN'S
HEAD OFF,
YOU'LL HAVE
NO CHOICE.

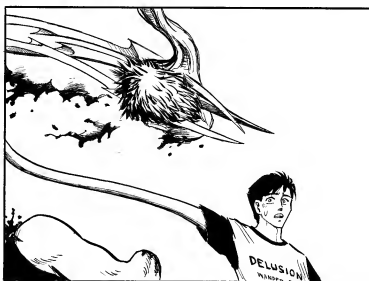
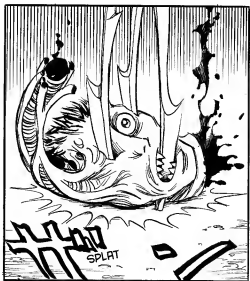
YOU'RE
GETTING
ON MY
NERVES.

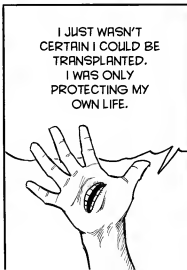
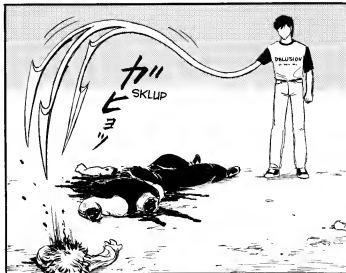
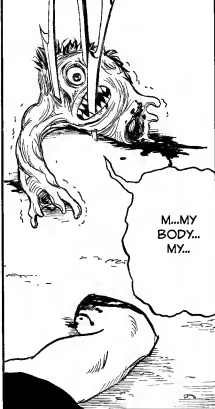
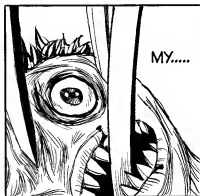


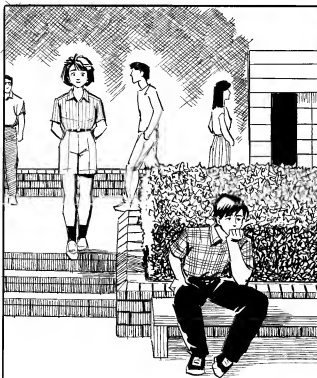
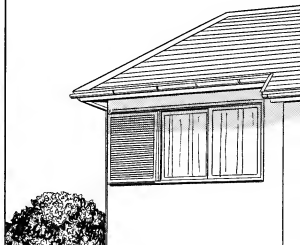
NO...
WAIT...

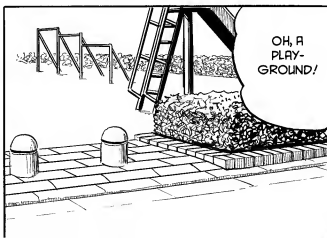
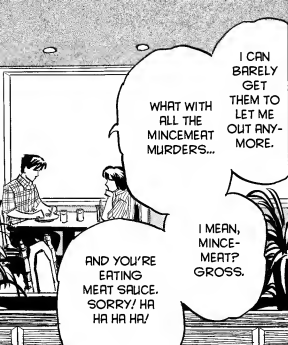


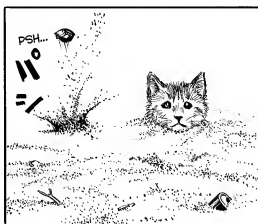
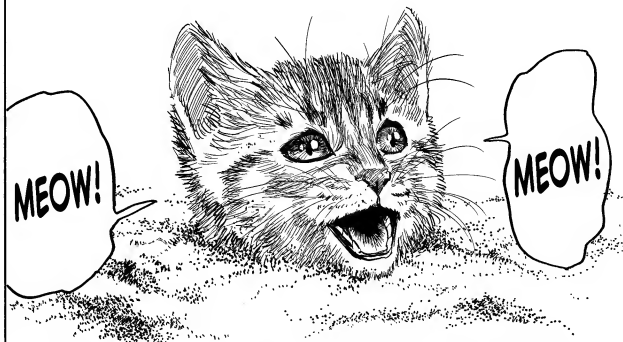


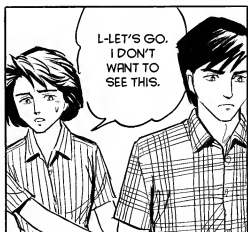


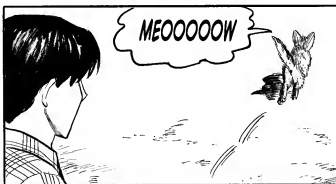


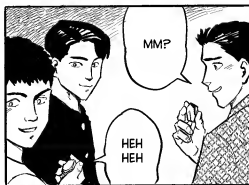


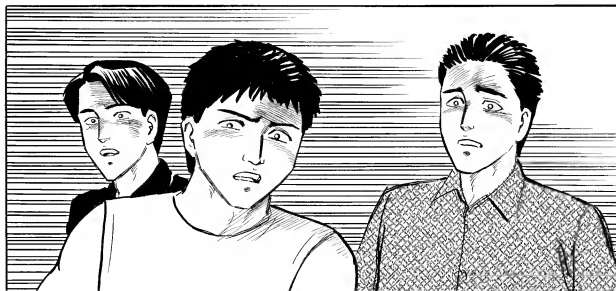
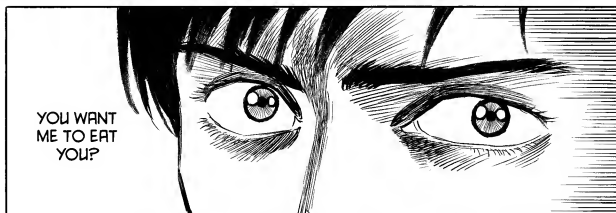
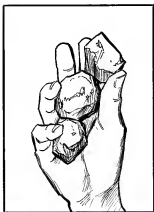




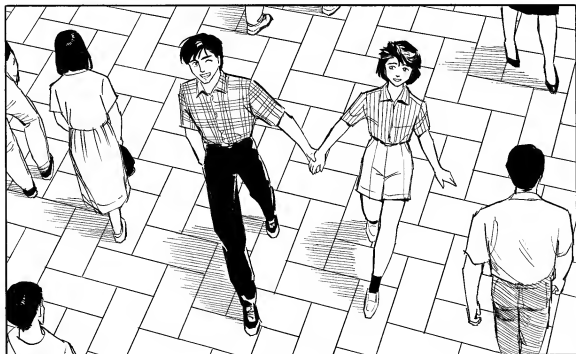
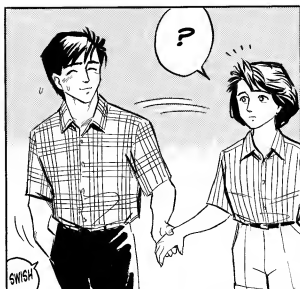












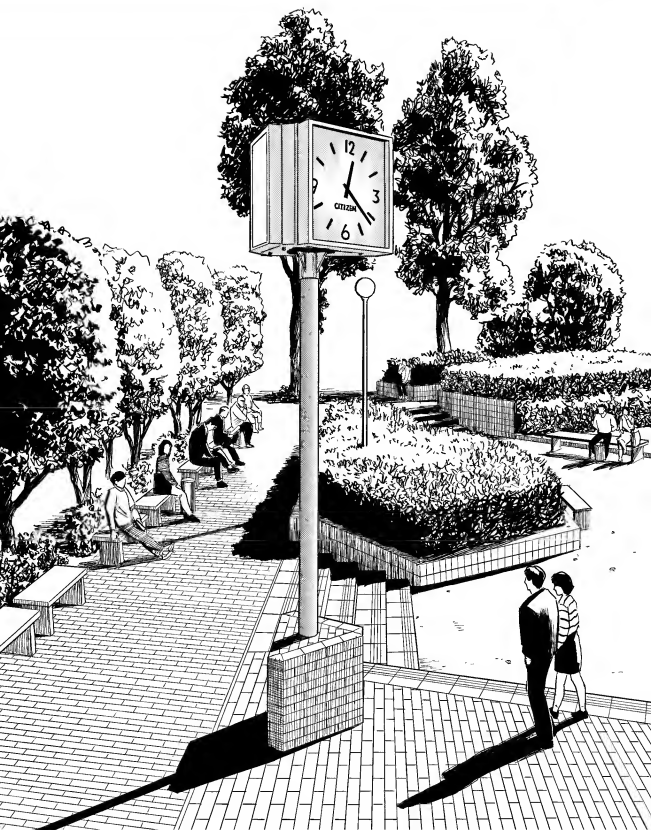
"IZUMI-KUN."

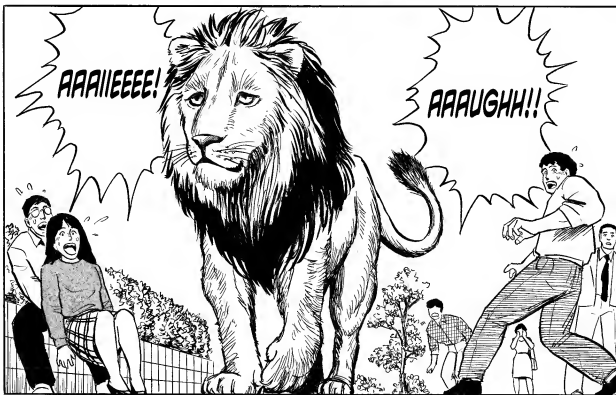
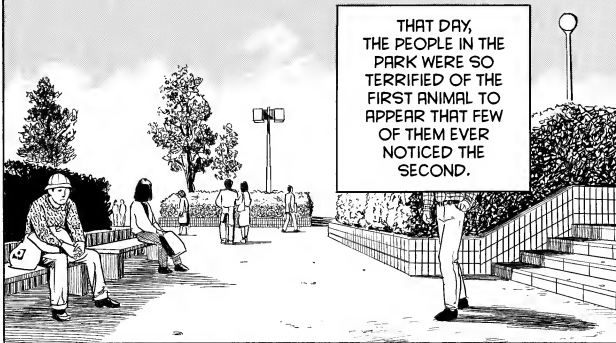
"MM?"

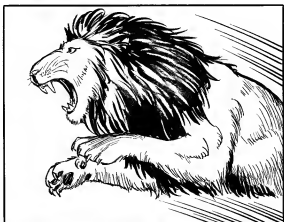
"YOU ARE...IZUMI SHINICHI-KUN...
RIGHT?"

"OF COURSE I AM!"

CHAPTER 4: KILLER'S AURA









RAISED IN
CAPTIVITY,
IT DID NOT
FEAR
HUMANS.

THIS
LION
WAS
NOT
WILD.



IT KILLED
NOT FROM
HUNGER,
BUT
BECAUSE
IT WANTED
TO.



"THIS IS
WHAT MY
CLAWS AND
FANGS
WERE FOR."



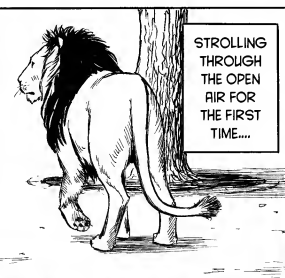
"AHH..."



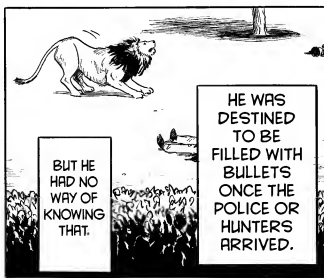


"EVEN SO,
THESE
THINGS
ARE SO
EASY TO
DESTROY."

"AND I
LET THEM
CONTROL
ME?"



STROLLING
THROUGH
THE OPEN
AIR FOR
THE FIRST
TIME....



BUT HE
HAD NO
WAY OF
KNOWING
THAT.

HE WAS
DESTINED
TO BE
FILLED WITH
BULLETS
ONCE THE
POLICE OR
HUNTERS
ARRIVED.



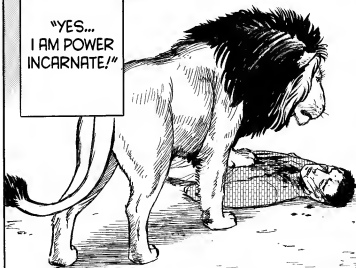
EEK!

HE HAD
BEEN
INVINCIBLE.



FOR THE
FEW HOURS
SINCE HE HAD
BROKEN OUT
OF HIS CAGE,
FOR THE TWO
KILOMETERS
HE HAD
WALKED...

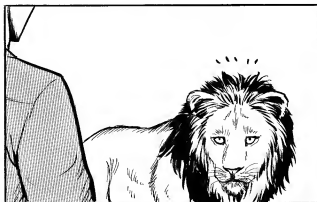
"YES...
I AM POWER
INCARNATE!"



THUNK!



IT WAS
HIS
FIRST
EVER
HUNT.



WHAT'S
GOING
ON?

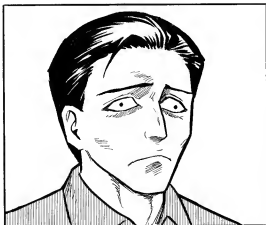


HUMANS
MUST HAVE
KEPT IT,
AND IT
ESCAPED.

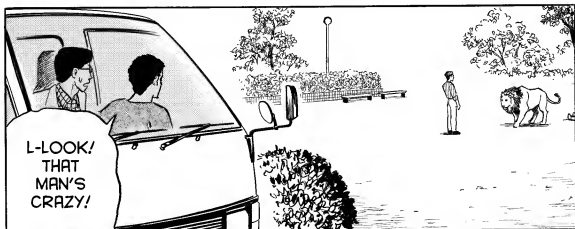
LIONS
SHOULD
NOT BE IN A
PLACE LIKE
THIS.



GRRR...



"WHAT?
WHY IS
HE NOT
SCARED?"



GRR...
η"
..



"IT SMELLS
LIKE THE
OTHERS...
BUT IT IS
DIFFERENT!"



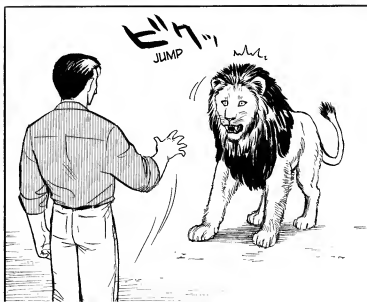
"NO!
THIS IS A
DIFFERENT
ANIMAL!"



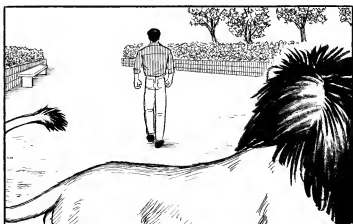
"IS IT
STRONGER
THAN ME!?"



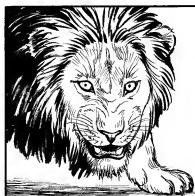
YOU FEAR ME.
NO MAMMALS
CAN TAKE
PAIN.



ジャンプ
JUMP



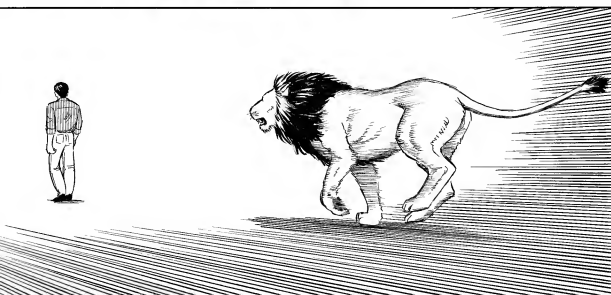
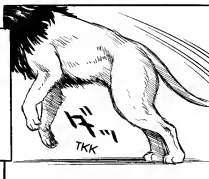
IT HAD NOT
YET LEARNED
TO TRUST ITS
BUDDING WILD
INSTINCTS.

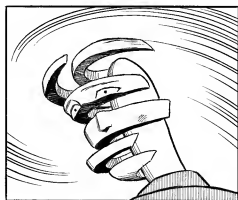


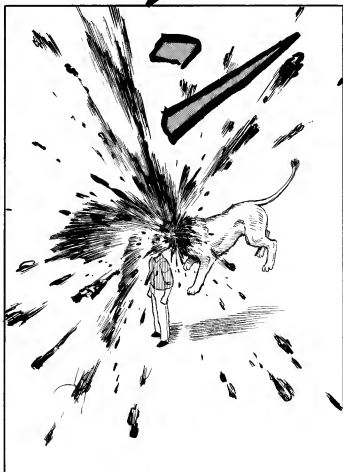
THIS
LION
HAD
BEEN
A PET
SINCE
BIRTH.

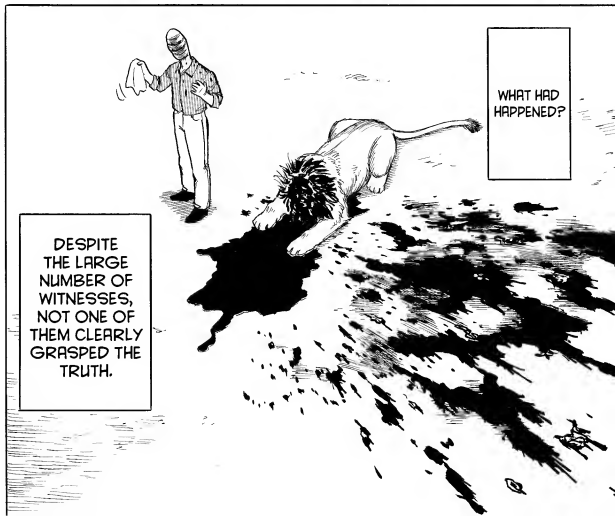
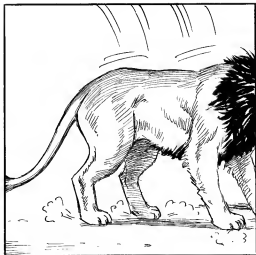
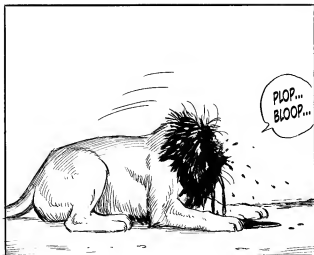


"I DON'T KNOW
WHAT IT IS,
BUT IT HAS NO
WEAPONS! IT
HAS NO CLAWS
OR FANGS
LIKE ME!"



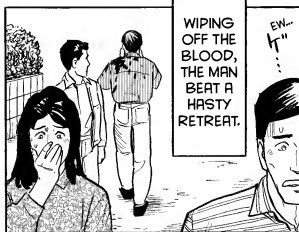






DESPITE
THE LARGE
NUMBER OF
WITNESSES,
NOT ONE OF
THEM CLEARLY
GRASPED THE
TRUTH.

WHAT HAD
HAPPENED?



WIPING
OFF THE
BLOOD,
THE MAN
BEAT A
HASTY
RETREAT.

EW...
ㄣ



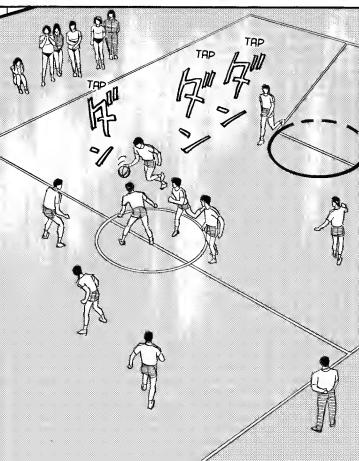
THAT THE MAN
HAD THROWN
SOMETHING
EXPLOSIVE AT
THE LION.

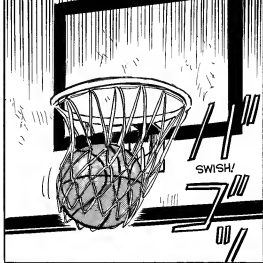
THE PEOPLE
THERE
ULTIMATELY
CAME TO THE
CONCLUSION...

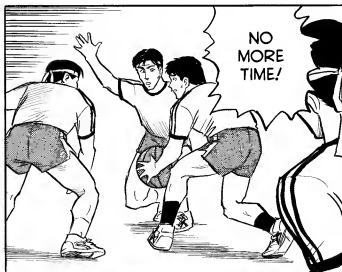


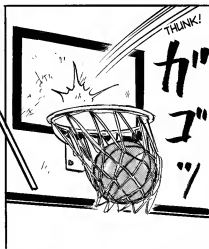
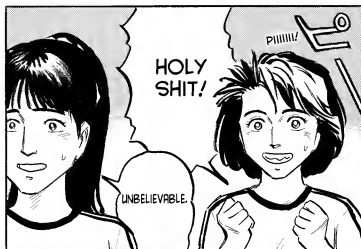
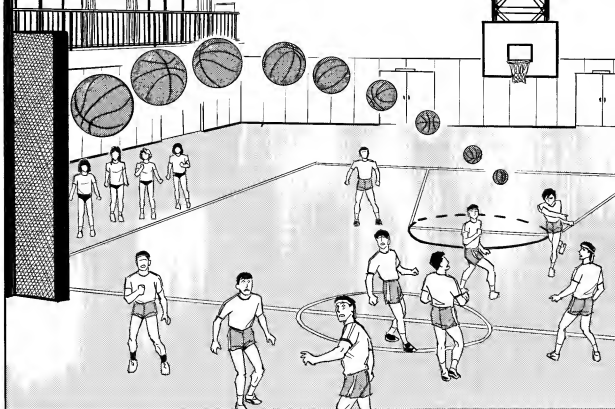
JUST YOUR
IMAGINATION!
HA HA HA!

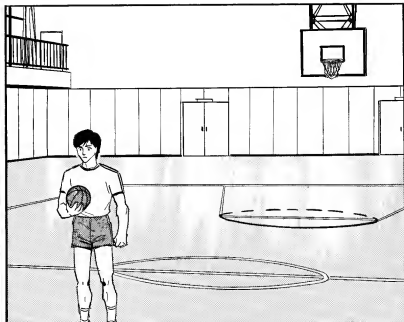
I COULD
SWEAR
THAT MAN'S
FACE
WENT...













OKAY,
OKAY. I'M
GOING
BACK TO
SLEEP.

PLEASE
DO.



YEAH, WELL,
I CAN SEE
HOW YOU'D
THINK IT
WAS A
WASTE OF
TIME...

THERE'S
NO REAL
POINT.

...SO DON'T
DO THAT
ANMORE.
THIS IS JUST
A GAME.



WH-
WHERE'D
YOU COME
FROM,
KOTANI?



HEY,
IZUMI!

I'M
TIRED,
TOO...



RIGHT, I'M
GOING TO
CHANGE.

WAIT.



PRACTICING
YOUR
PICK-UP
LINES?

STANDING
AROUND
TALKING
TO YOUR-
SELF...

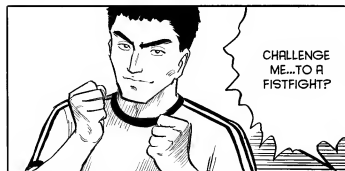


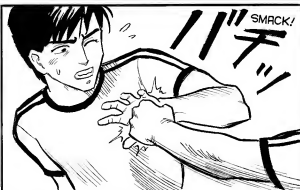
OH?
YOU
HAVE?

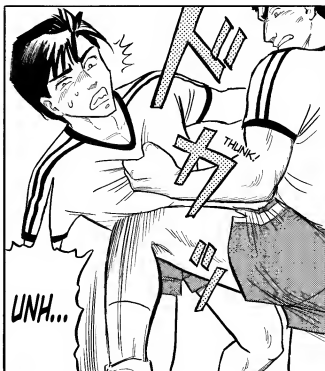


YOU KNOW
I'VE HAD MY
EYE ON HER A
WHILE NOW?

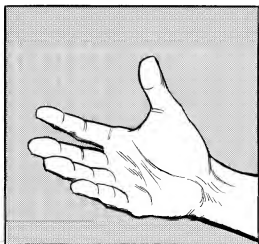
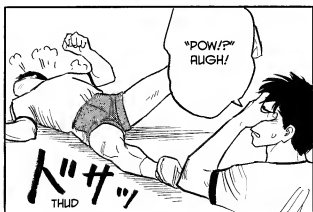
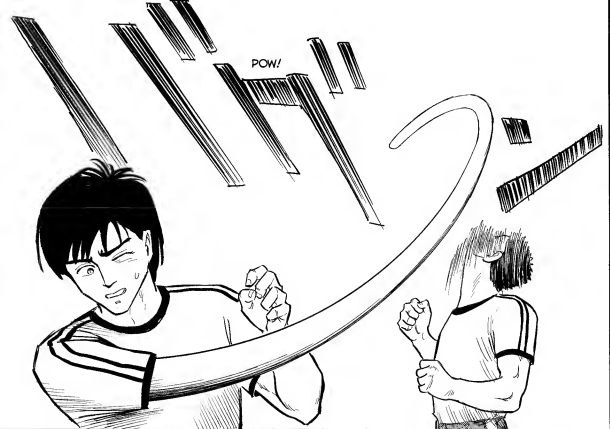
MURANO
SATOMI
FROM
CLASS 3.

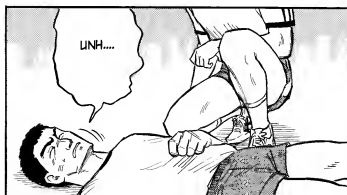
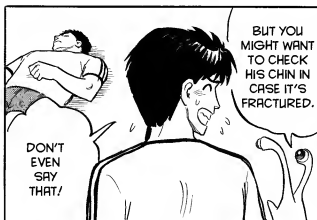


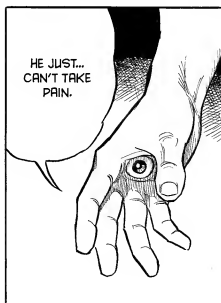














From the Monthly Afternoon Readers' page...

PARASYTE [PERFECT EDITION] 1

vol. 1



"I hate the horror and splatter genres, but oddly, I enjoy *Parasyte*. As the human population continues to expand, something like this might actually happen. It isn't just scary; it also makes us think. And it's also funny, which makes it a book I can't put down." (Kanagawa Prefecture, Kuroda Hisa, 30, Office Worker)

"*Parasyte* is really fun! I was amazed when the dog turned into some sort of bat! Shinichi and Migi's strange relationship is also neat. All hail Iwaaki-shi's ideas!" (Tokyo, Shiyotsuru Maiwa, 26, Office Worker)

"I began drawing this book when I wondered what would happen if living creatures besides humans, the lives we put so little value in, were granted enormous power. Pay close attention to the parasite's uncanny logic." (Hitoshi Iwaaki)

(From *Morning Open Extra H*, October 3, 1989)

"Will humans eventually consume the Earth? With that thought in mind, the belief that the parasites are evil is nothing more than human selfishness." (Saitama Prefecture, Tachi Chitchi, 22, Student)

"The future of mankind, unable to feel even a little pain, is..." (Ibaraki Prefecture, Nakai Yuusuke, 26, Student)

"I think we also should be thinking about the future of mankind. But one human hoping for the happiness of all accomplishes nothing. The best we can do is look after our families, neighbors, and any people or living things we come in contact with. I think that's enough. Humanity will not be saved by statistics, but by the warmth of individuals." (Hitoshi Iwaaki)

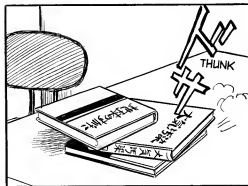
(From *Afternoon*, July 1991)

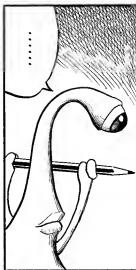
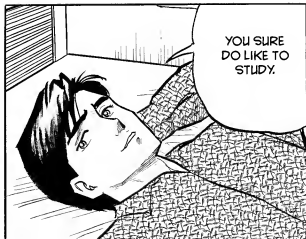
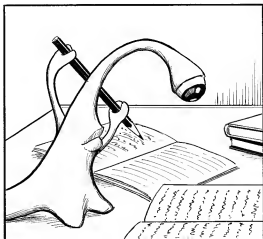


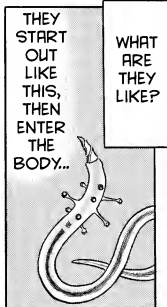
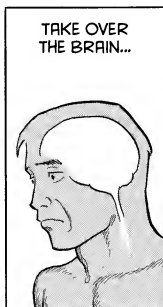
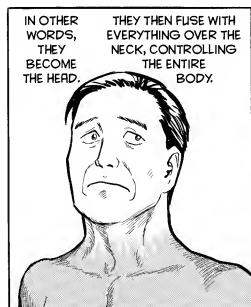
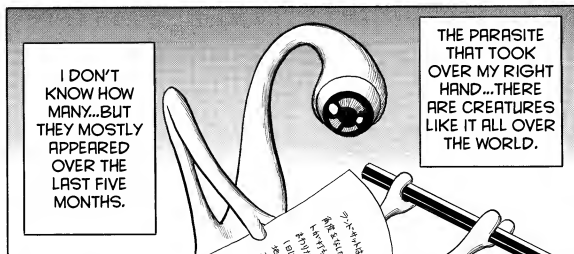
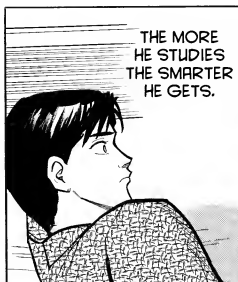
THE READERS ASK, THE AUTHOR ANSWERS

CHAPTER 5: STUDYHOLIC









STRETCH
LIKE
RUBBER,
TURN HARD
AS IRON,
AND MOVE
WITH
INCREDIBLE
FORCE.

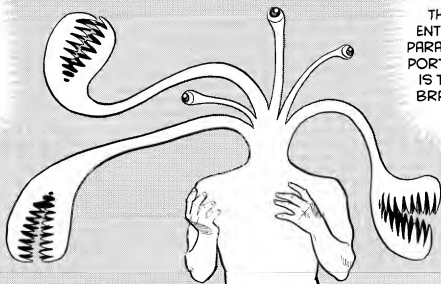


BUT CAN
CHANGE
SHAPE AT
WILL...

THEY
LOOK
LIKE
HUMANS...



AND THE
EYES.
AND
TENTACLES.



THE
ENTIRE
PARASITE
PORTION
IS THE
BRAIN.

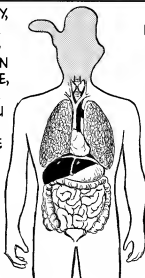
WHY DO
THEY EAT
HUMANS?



BUT WHAT
PUZZLES
ME IS THEIR
FOOD.



ULTIMATELY,
THEY ARE
NOTHING
MORE THAN
A PARASITE,
AND WILL
DIE IF YOU
CUT THE
HEAD OFF.



BUT
DESPITE THEIR
INCREDIBLE
POWER, THEY
CAN'T LIVE
WITHOUT
BORROWING
HUMAN
ORGANS,
THE HUMAN
DIGESTIVE
SYSTEM.



THE BODIES OF
THEIR VICTIMS
ARE ALWAYS IN
SUCH TERRIBLE
CONDITION THAT
THE WORLD CALLS
THEM THE MINCE-
MEAT MURDERS.



ISN'T
THAT
CANNI-
BALISM?



HUHH...

NOT SURE.
SINCE I GET
NUTRITION
DIRECTLY
FROM YOUR
BLOOD-
STREAM I
HAVE NO
APPETITE.



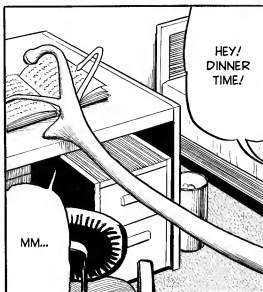
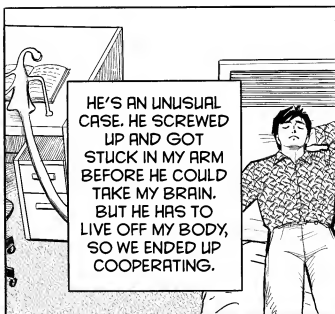
SAY, MIGI.
WHY DO YOUR
KIND EAT ONLY
THEIR HOST
LIFE-FORM?

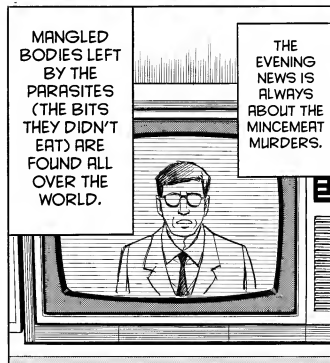
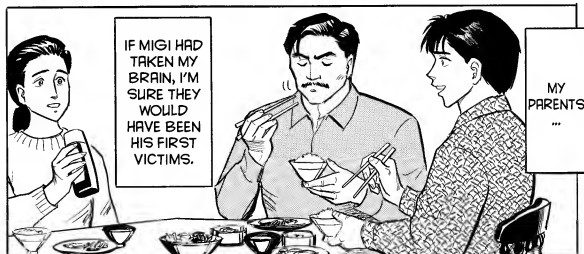
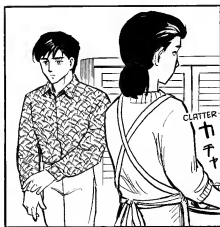
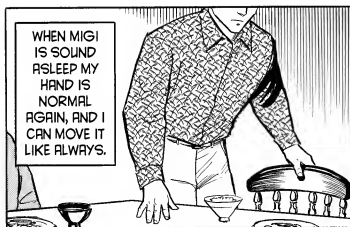
I
ASKED
ONCE.

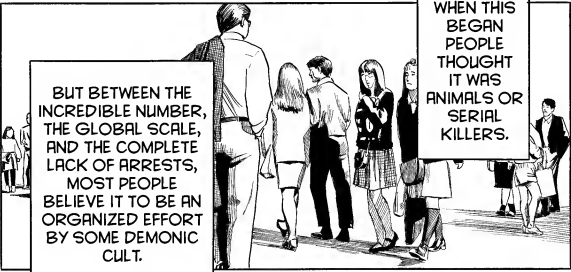


IS THAT
GOOD?



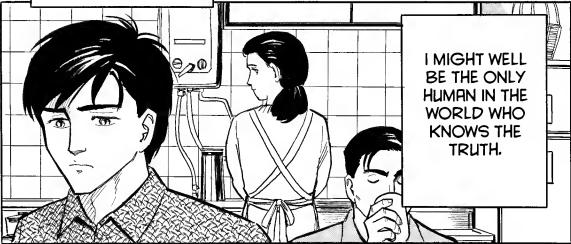




A black and white illustration showing a group of people walking away from the viewer on a sidewalk. There are about seven people in total, including men and women in various styles of clothing. The scene is set outdoors with a simple background.

BUT BETWEEN THE
INCREDIBLE NUMBER,
THE GLOBAL SCALE,
AND THE COMPLETE
LACK OF ARRESTS,
MOST PEOPLE
BELIEVE IT TO BE AN
ORGANIZED EFFORT
BY SOME DEMONIC
CULT.

WHEN THIS
BEGAN
PEOPLE
THOUGHT
IT WAS
ANIMALS OR
SERIAL
KILLERS.

A black and white illustration. In the foreground, a young man with dark hair and a patterned shirt looks directly at the viewer with a serious expression. In the background, a woman in a light-colored dress with a dark sash stands with her back to the viewer, looking towards the right. Next to her, another man is partially visible, looking down with his hand near his face.

I MIGHT WELL
BE THE ONLY
HUMAN IN THE
WORLD WHO
KNOWS THE
TRUTH.

A black and white illustration of a house with a gabled roof and a chimney. A large, leafy tree is in the foreground on the left side. The scene is set outdoors.

GOOD-
BYE!

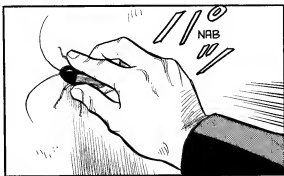
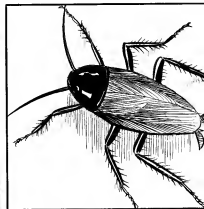
A black and white illustration of a person lying down, looking up. The person's head is tilted back, and their eyes are open. The background is dark and indistinct.

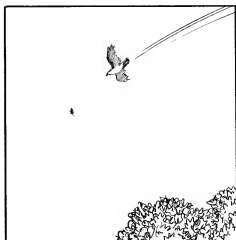
NEVER
MIND.

A black and white illustration of a person lying in bed, looking up. The person's head is tilted back, and their eyes are open. In the background, there is a desk with a lamp and some papers on it.

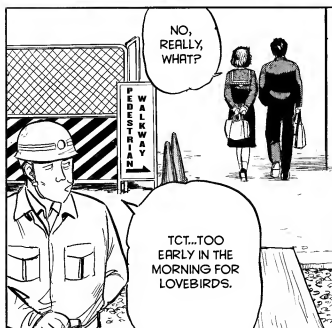
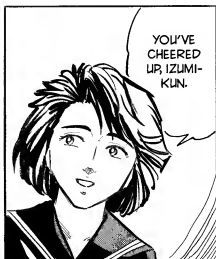
ABOUT
WHAT?

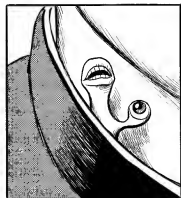
WE'VE
GOT
TO DO
SOME-
THING.













AGAIN?

GETTING
CLOSER.



MY
KIND IS
NEARBY.

MM!?



IF THERE'S
ANOTHER
PARASITE
WITHIN 300
METERS,
THEY CAN
SENSE
ITS BRAIN
WAVES.

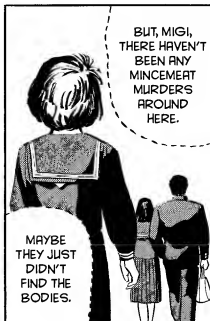
THE
PARASITES
HAVE ONE
OTHER
ABILITY.
THEY CAN
SENSE EACH
OTHER'S
PRESENCE.



OH,
NO...



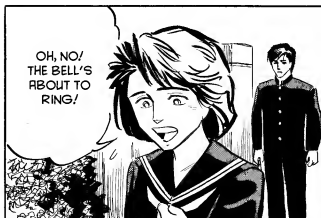
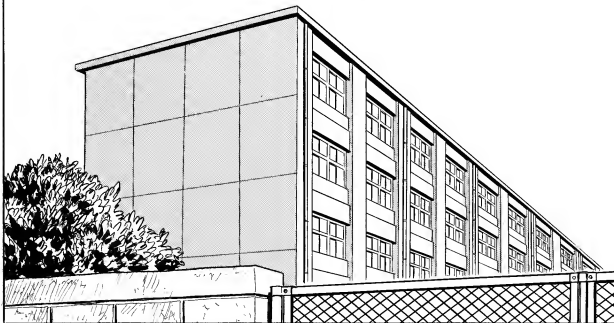
WE'RE
ABOUT
SIXTY
METERS
AWAY...
INSIDE THAT
BUILDING.

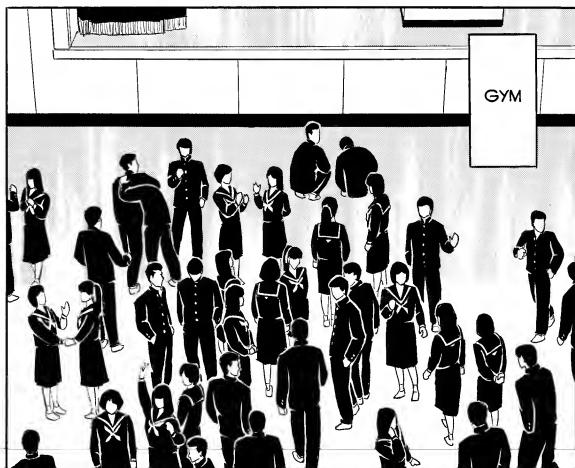


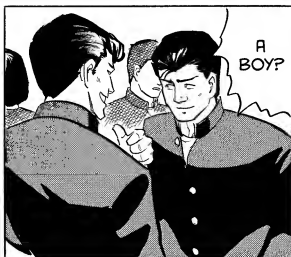
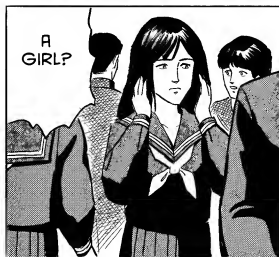
BUT, MIGI,
THERE HAVEN'T
BEEN ANY
MINCEMEAT
MURDERS
AROUND
HERE.

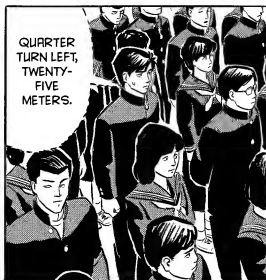
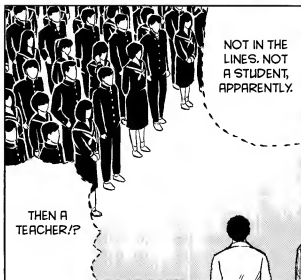
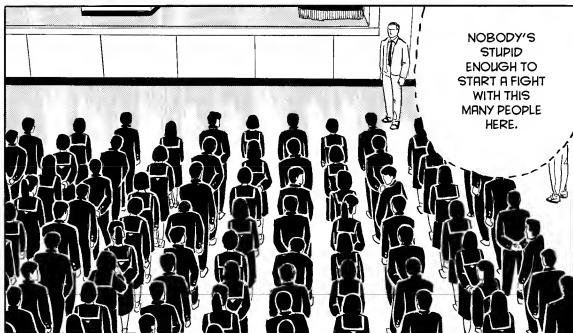
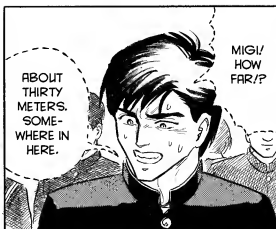
MAYBE
THEY JUST
DIDN'T
FIND THE
BODIES.

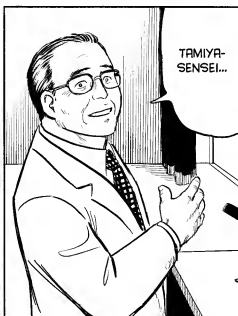
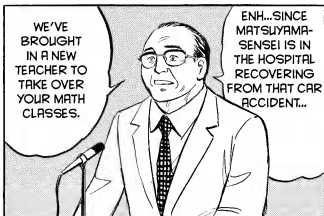
MY SCHOOL!?

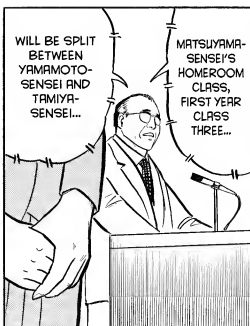


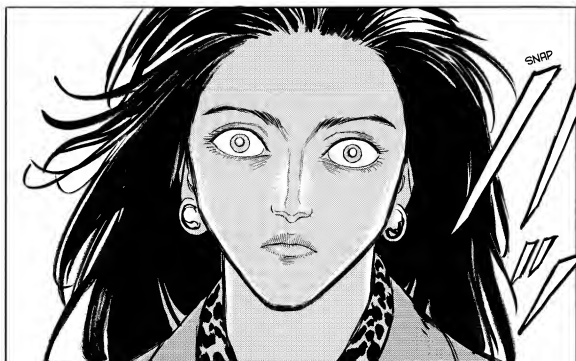


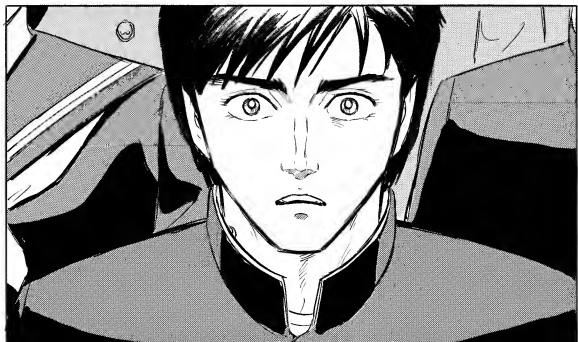
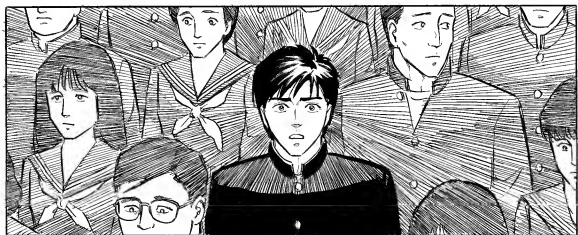


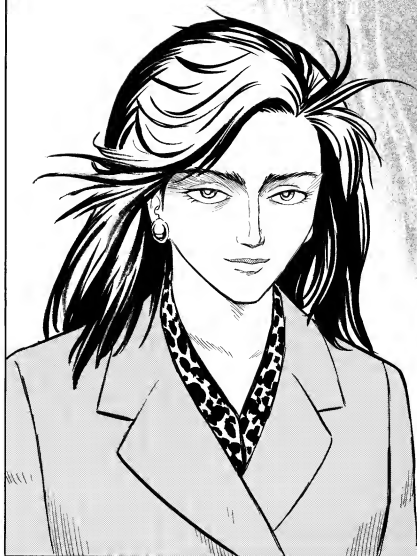












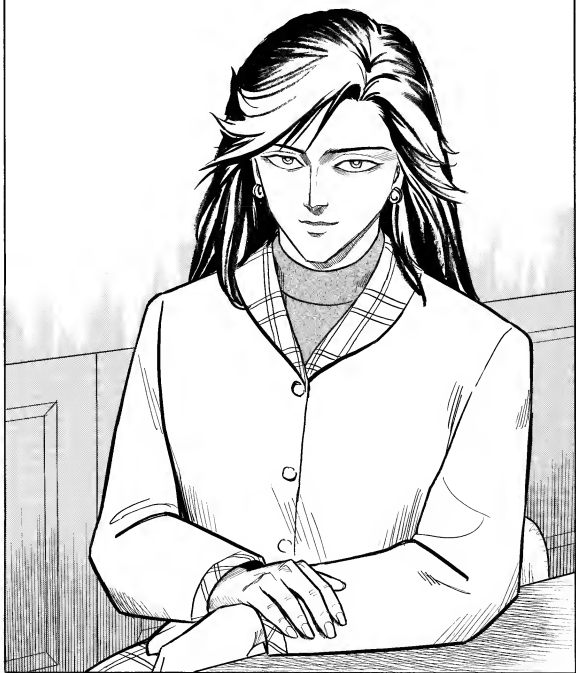
SHE
FOUND
ME...

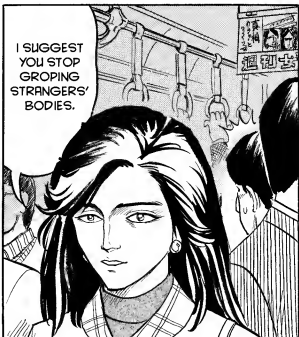
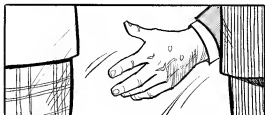
SHE'S
HOT!

SHE'S
LOOKING
AT US!

CHAPTER 5: THE END

CHAPTER 6: TAMIYA RYŌKO

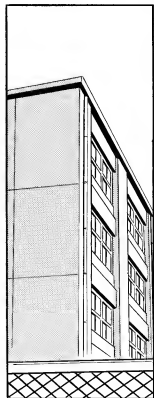
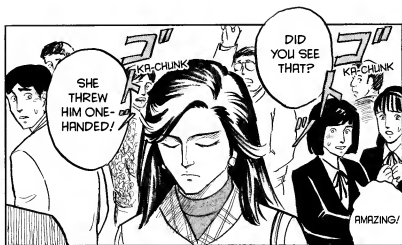






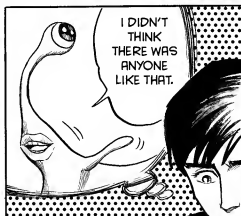
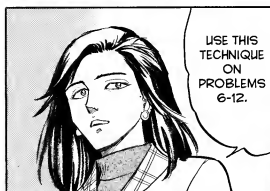
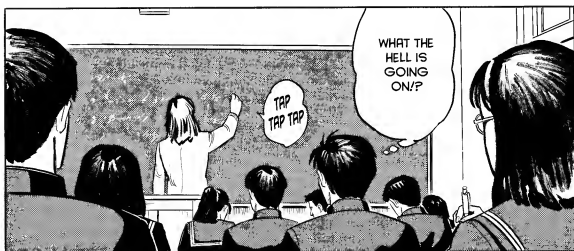


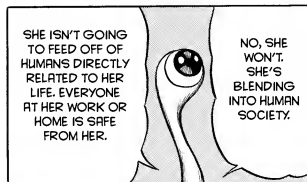


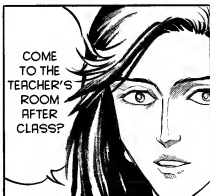
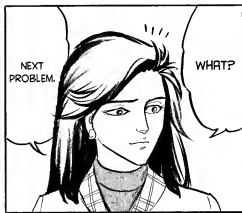


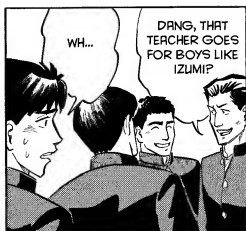
ALL HER
PAPERS
ARE IN
ORDER AS
A LIVING
HUMAN.

TAMIYA
RYŌKO,
24,
SINGLE,
HIGH
SCHOOL
TEACHER.









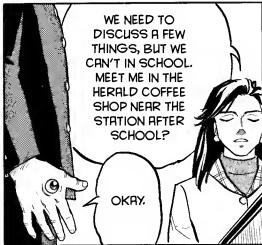




I-I'M
NOT
COMING!



DON'T
JUST
AGREE!
IT MIGHT
BE A
TRAP?



WE NEED TO
DISCUSS A FEW
THINGS, BUT WE
CAN'T IN SCHOOL.
MEET ME IN THE
HERALD COFFEE
SHOP NEAR THE
STATION AFTER
SCHOOL?

OKAY.



IF I
WANTED
YOU DEAD,
YOU
ALREADY
WOULD BE.



WHAT...?

WHY ARE
HUMANS SO
IRRATIONAL?



WE WILL TRADE
INFORMATION,
AND DISCUSS
THE FUTURE.

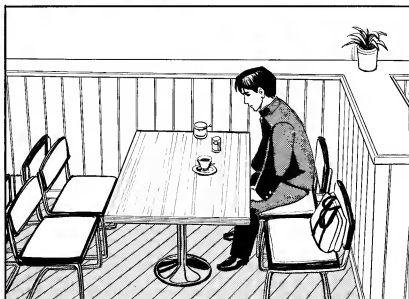


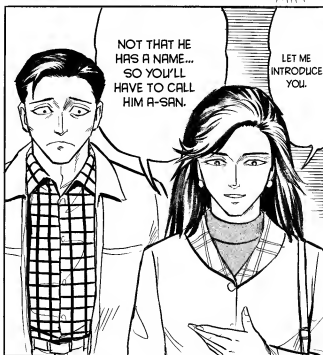
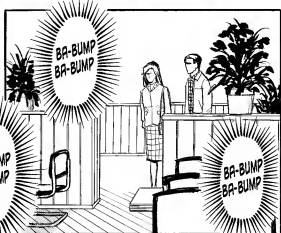
I'M INTERESTED.
I HAVEN'T SEEN
A CASE LIKE
YOURS BEFORE,
AND I WANT TO
KNOW MORE.



BE THERE.

カッパ
CLATTER



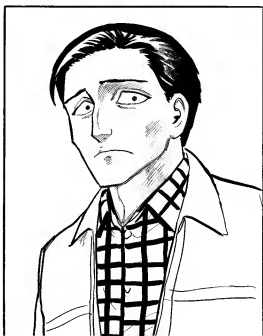




HE'S NOT
ONE OF
US!

WHAT IS
HE?

SNIKT!





WE GAIN
NOTHING BY
FIGHTING
HERE!

LIKE I
JUST
SAID.



STOP
IT!



EVERYTHING
THEY'RE
SAYING
IS REALLY
STRANGE!

WHAT?

THERE'S
SOME-
THING
WEIRD
ABOUT
THOSE
THREE.

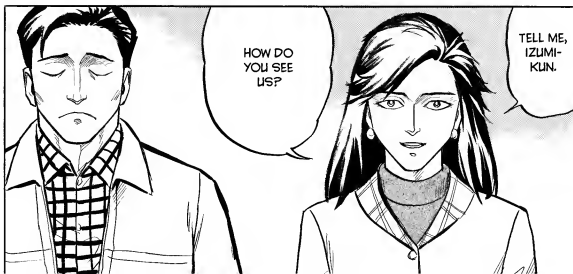


I SEE...THOSE
TWO ARE THE
ONLY TYPES
YOU MET?



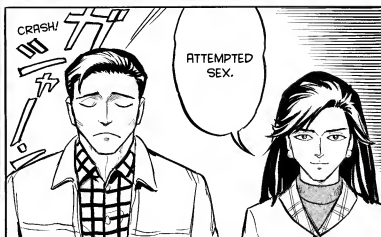
STILL...

IT TAKES
ALL KINDS...



HOW DO
YOU SEE
US?

TELL ME,
IZUMI-
KUN.





WHAT
IS IT?

THIS
THING
GROWING
INSIDE MY
BODY...



AN
ORDINARY
HUMAN,
RIGHT?



TH-
THAT'S...

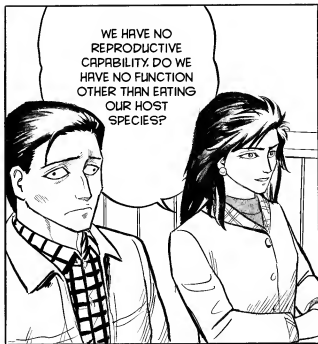


SO WHAT
DOES THAT
MAKE US?

YES/ A
PERFECTLY
HEALTHY
HUMAN BABY.



I
THOUGHT
YOU'D
KNOW.



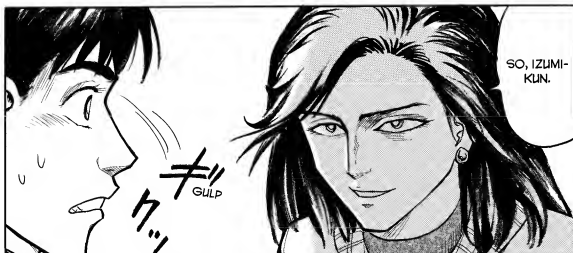


DIFFERENT
BACK-
GROUND, I
SUPPOSE.

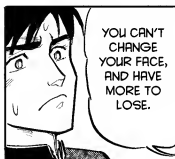


CREAK
カラーン

THANK
YOU!



SO, IZUMI-
KUN.



YOU CAN'T
CHANGE
YOUR FACE,
AND HAVE
MORE TO
LOSE.



DO NOT
ATTEMPT
TO CAUSE
PROBLEMS
FOR ME.



HUMANS
OCCASIONALLY
DO THINGS I
CAN'T UNDER-
STAND, SO...

CHN
チン
チン

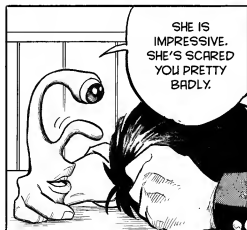
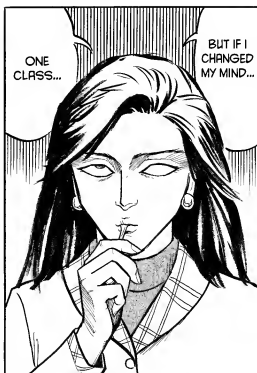
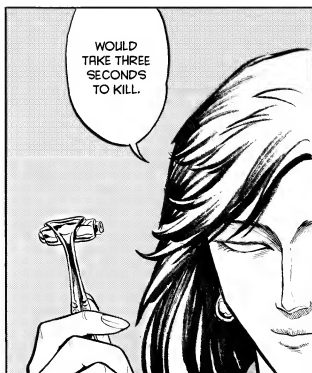


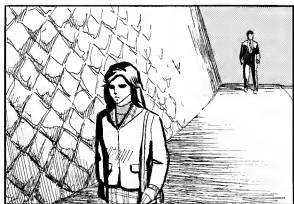
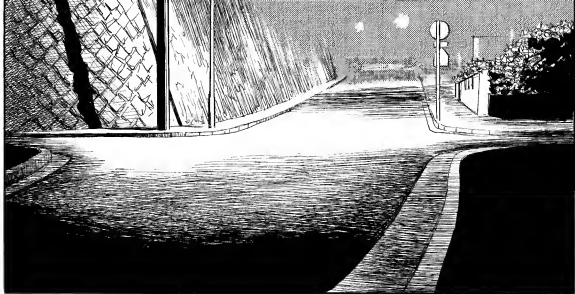
I WISH TO
PROTECT MY
IDENTITY AS A
HUMAN, SO I
DON'T PLAN TO
DO ANYTHING
DRAMATIC.



AND YOU
HAVE A
FRIEND IN
MY CLASS?

WHAT?P









SHE HAD
ALLOWED
SHINICHI
AND "A" TO
MEET.....



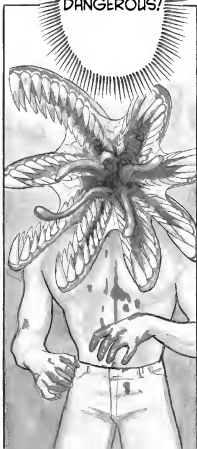
THE PARASITES
WERE STILL
YOUNG. DESPITE
HER KNOWLEDGE,
TAMIYA RYŌKO'S
LACK OF
EXPERIENCE HAD
LED HER TO MAKE
ONE MISTAKE...

WE MUST
LEAVE
NO
LOOSE
ENDS.

MY
CONCLUSION...
IS DIFFERENT
FROM TAMIYA
RYŌKO'S.

CRUNCH
パチャ
CRUNCH
パチャ

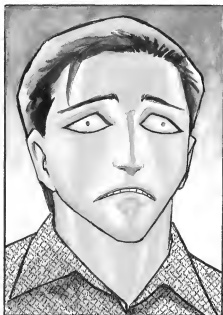
THAT BOY
IS TOO
DANGEROUS!

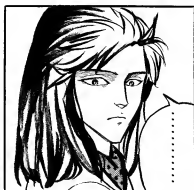
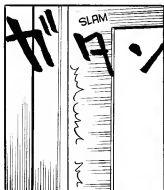
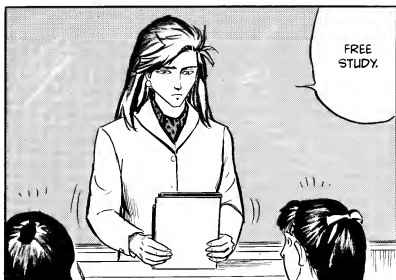


CHAPTER 7: ATTACK

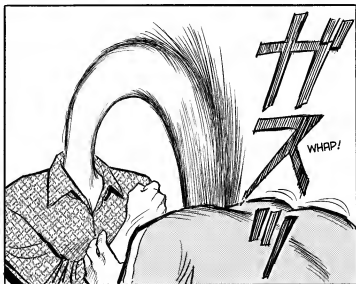






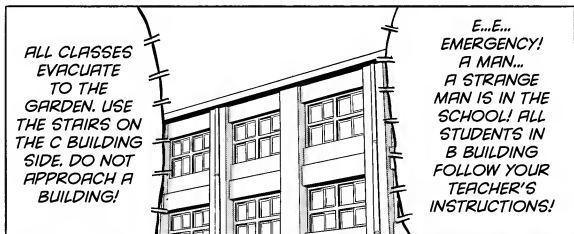
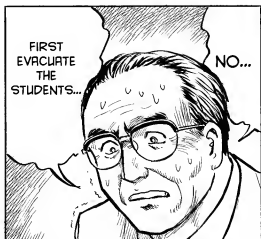








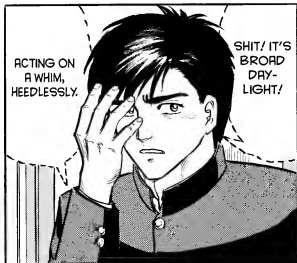






SO WHERE'D SHE GO?

HE MUST THINK HE CAN GET AWAY WITH IT IF HE JUST CHANGES HIS FACE...NOTHING LIKE TAMIYA RYOKO.



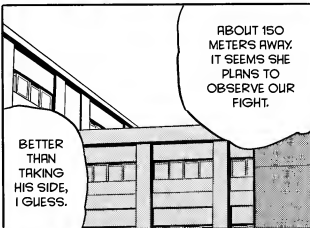
ACTING ON A WHIM, HEADLESSLY.

SHIT! IT'S BROAD DAY-LIGHT!



GET AWAY? WHY?

SO HOW CAN WE GET AWAY?



ABOUT 150 METERS AWAY. IT SEEMS SHE PLANS TO OBSERVE OUR FIGHT.

BETTER THAN TAKING HIS SIDE, I GUESS.



CLASS FIVE, LET'S GO!

RATTLE



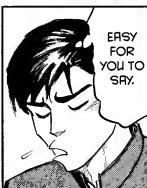
IT'LL BE EASIER IN THE SCHOOL. I HAVE A PLAN. WE CAN USE HIS AGGRESSION AGAINST HIM.

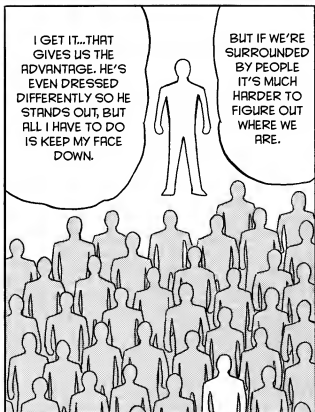
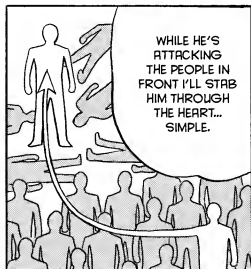


WHAT?

THIS GUY CAME AT US IN BROAD DAY-LIGHT WITHOUT WORRYING IF HE WAS SEEN. EVEN IF WE RUN, HE'LL JUST CHASE US DOWN. WE'RE BETTER OFF TAKING HIM OUT HERE.









YES. THE CROWD
AROUND YOU
IS A WALL OF
FLESH; A SHIELD
FOR US, AN
OBSTRUCTION
FOR A.



WHILE
HE'S
ATTACK-
ING...



THE
PEOPLE
IN
FRONT?



I FORGOT
WHAT YOU
REALLY
ARE!



...OF
FLESH?

A
WALL...



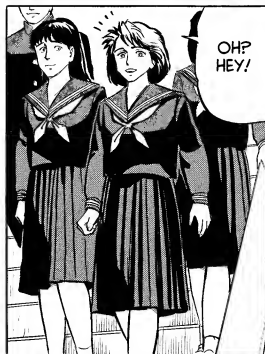
WHAT'S
WITH
HIM?



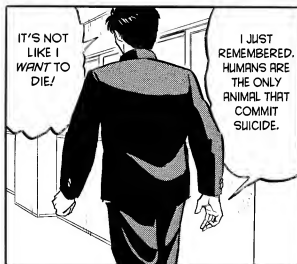
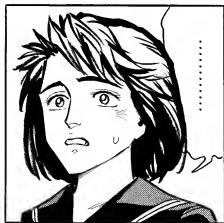
EKK!

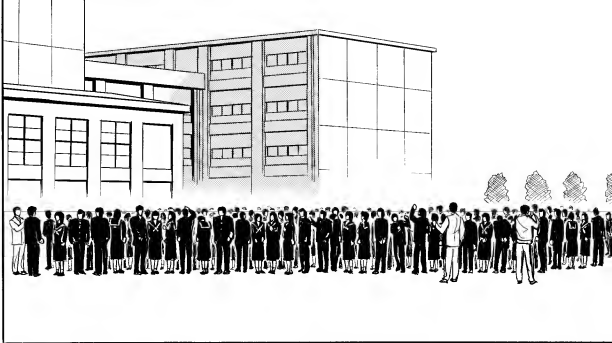
HUNH?
HUNH?

OW!



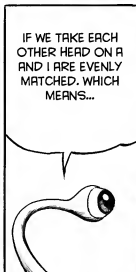
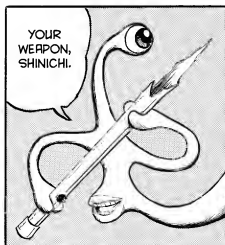
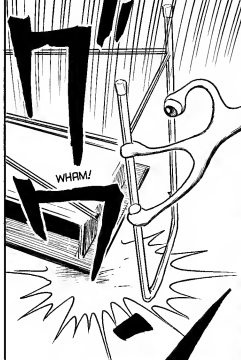








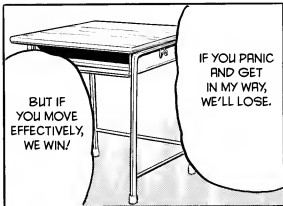
AND, UH...HE CAN CHANGE HIS FACE, AND WE CAN'T, HE'S ALONE BUT THERE ARE TWO OF US...





JUST DO
AS I SAY.
FIRST...

EFFECTIVELY...
LIKE WHAT?



BUT IF
YOU MOVE
EFFECTIVELY,
WE WIN!

IF YOU PANIC
AND GET
IN MY WAY,
WE'LL LOSE.



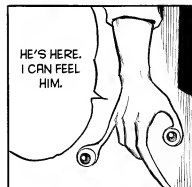
OW!
I
SCRAPED
MY ASS.



WORTH A
TRY. HOLD
THE WEAPON
WHERE HE
CAN'T SEE IT.



THINK
THAT'LL
WORK?



HE'S HERE.
I CAN FEEL
HIM.



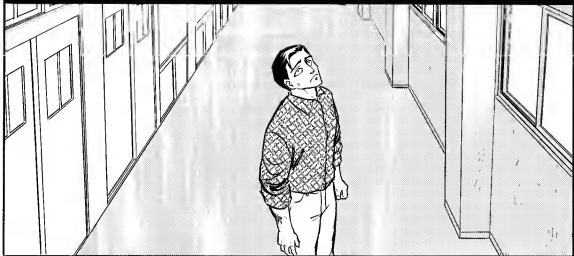
HE'S ONLY
THREE
METERS
AWAY!

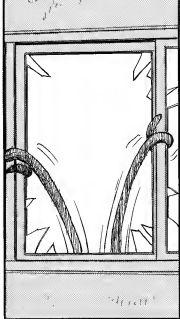
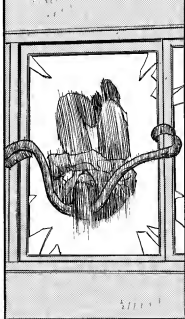
THREE!?

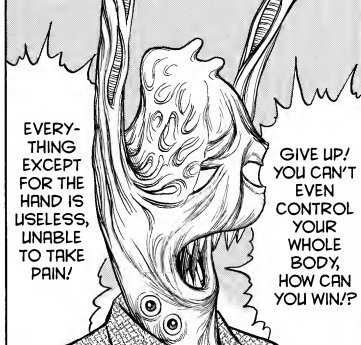


I HAVE
TO
TRUST
HIM.

CERTAINLY, MIGI
IS...FAR MORE
KNOWLEDGE-
ABLE ABOUT
FIGHTING THAN
I AM. HE'S
ALREADY KILLED
TWO OF HIS
KIND.







EVERY-
THING
EXCEPT
FOR THE
HAND IS
USELESS,
UNABLE
TO TAKE
PAIN!

GIVE UP!
YOU CAN'T
EVEN
CONTROL
YOUR
WHOLE
BODY,
HOW CAN
YOU WIN!/?

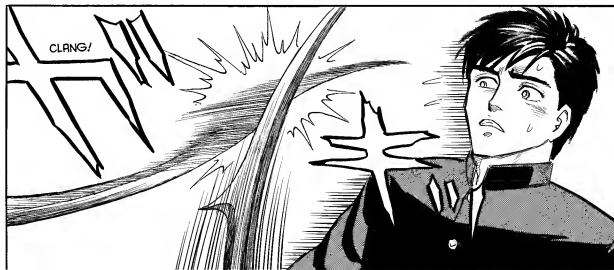
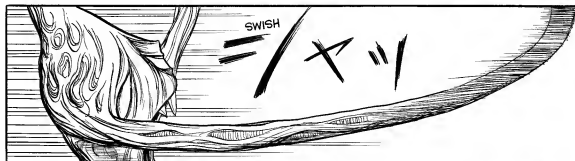


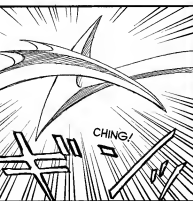
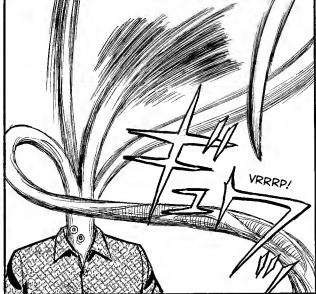
HOLY SHIT!
IT IS A
MONSTER!
A REAL
MONSTER!!

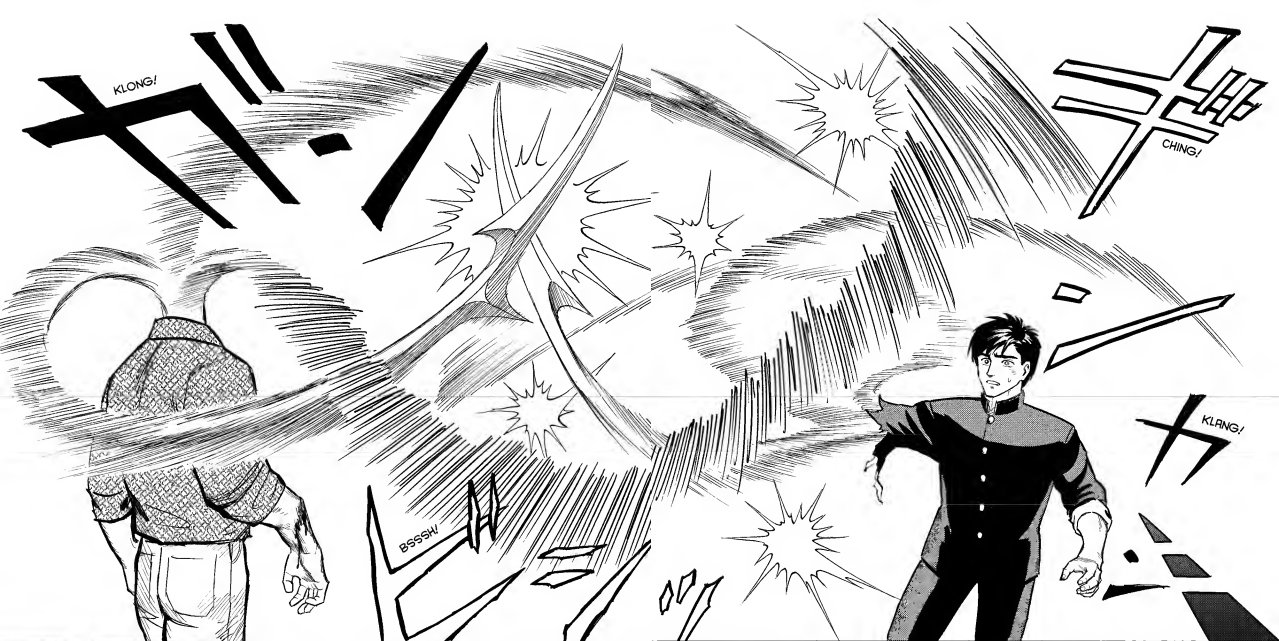


IT
WON'T
WORK!

OH! HE'S
TRYING TO
MAKE ME
PANIC, TRYING
TO GAIN THE
ADVANTAGE.







I WILL DEFEND,
YOU WILL
ATTACK. THIS
IS OUR BEST
SHOT!



HE WILL ONLY BE
WATCHING ME,
THE RIGHT HAND,
AND NOT PAYING
ANY ATTENTION
TO YOU AT ALL.
WE CAN USE THAT.

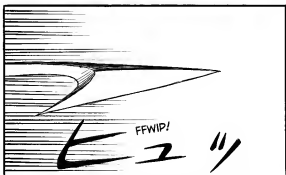
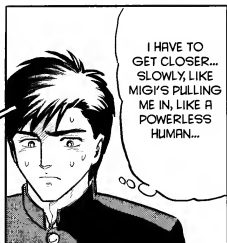
THE MAIN
IMPRESSION
I'VE GAINED
FROM R'S
MOVEMENTS
IS A
CONTEMPT
FOR HUMAN
STRENGTH.

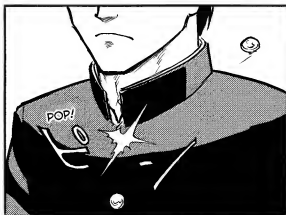
YOU, OF
COURSE.

THEN
WHO WILL
ATTACK?

ME!/?

LISTEN CLOSE. I'M
GOING TO PRETEND
TO ATTACK, BUT
CONCENTRATE ON
DEFENDING. IF I DO
THAT, I SHOULD BE
ABLE TO KEEP
YOU SAFE.





HE ONLY
SEES ME AS
MIGI'S HOST,
DOESN'T
THINK OF
ME AS A
SEPARATE
OPPONENT.

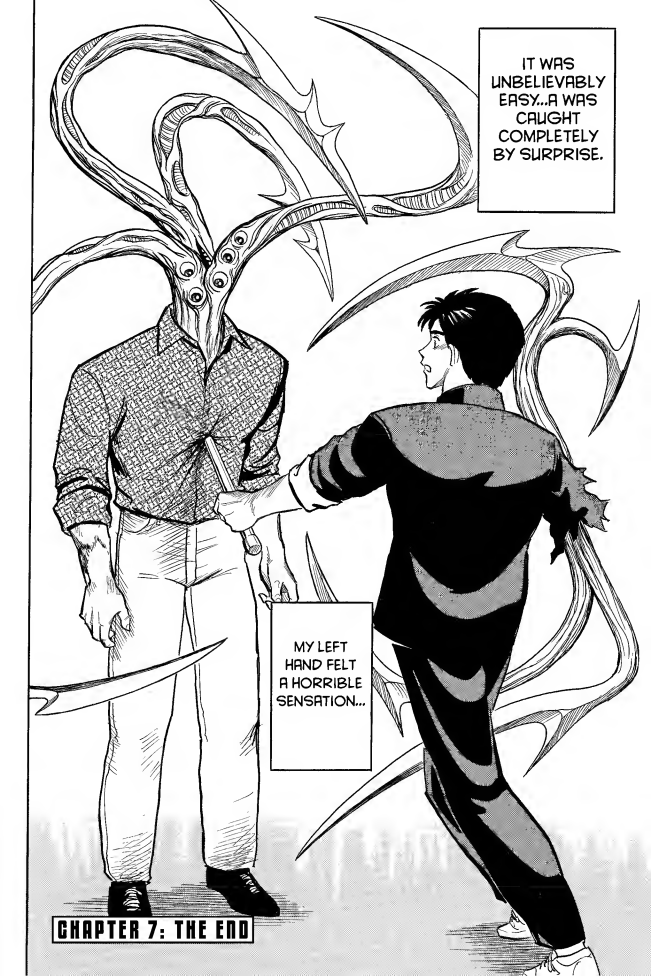
A REALLY DOES
SEEM TO HAVE
ALL HIS
ATTENTION ON
HIS HIGH-
SPEED SWORD
FIGHT WITH
MIGI. HE'S NOT
WATCHING ME
AT ALL.



NO, I
HAVE
TO DO
THIS!



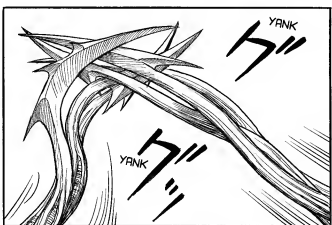
BUT HE'S
HUMAN
BELOW
THE
NECK...



IT WAS
UNBELIEVABLY
EASY...A WAS
CAUGHT
COMPLETELY
BY SURPRISE.

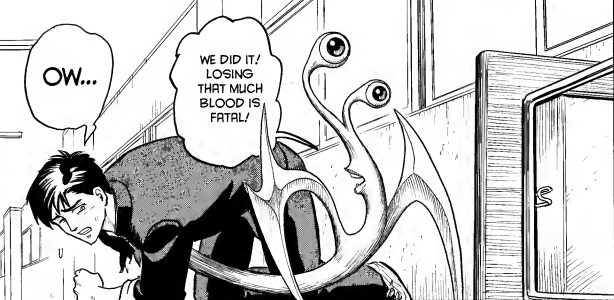
MY LEFT
HAND FELT
A HORRIBLE
SENSATION...

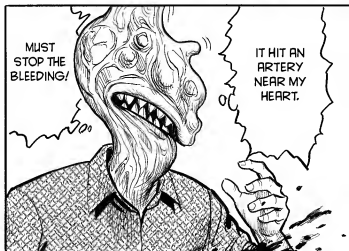
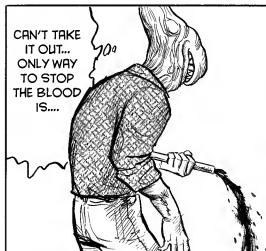
CHAPTER 7: THE END

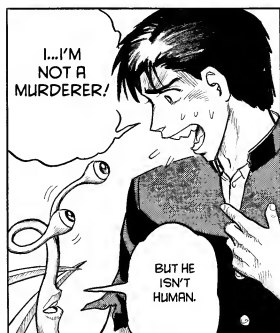




CHAPTER 8: SPECIES









NO...IT
DOESN'T
MAKE
SENSE!

A HUMAN?
KILLS ME?



TAMIYA
RYŌKO!
I CAN
JOIN HER
BODY...
WHERE IS
SHE?



DON'T
KNOW IF
IT WILL
WORK...

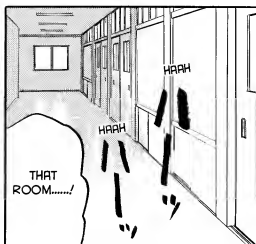
HAVE TO
MOVE!



CAN'T
USE THIS
BODY
ANY
MORE...



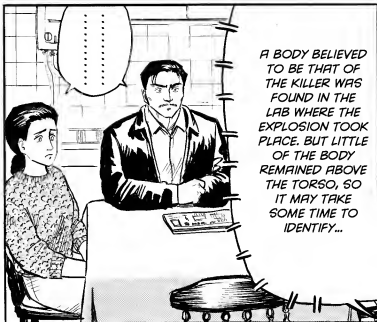
.....





60 陈金海(1980年) 1974年 11月 10日 1974年 11月 10日

**NO STUDENTS
HURT**



A BODY BELIEVED TO BE THAT OF THE KILLER WAS FOUND IN THE LAB WHERE THE EXPLOSION TOOK PLACE. BUT LITTLE OF THE BODY REMAINED ABOVE THE TORSO, SO IT MAY TAKE SOME TIME TO IDENTIFY...

SUICIDE?
MYSTERY
EXPLOSION!

**LOTS OF BLOOD
FOUND ON
FOURTH FLOOR**



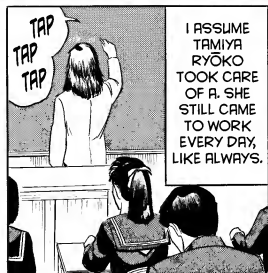
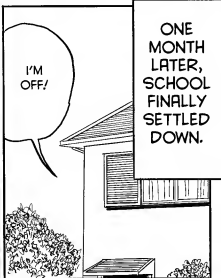
WELL...AT
LEAST HE'S
SAFE...



BEEN
SLEEPING
EVER SINCE.

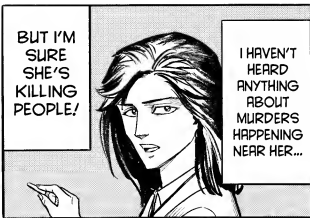


SHINICHI
IS...?





I CAN'T
JUST
LET HER
DO
THAT.



BUT I'M
SURE
SHE'S
KILLING
PEOPLE!

I HAVEN'T
HEARD
ANYTHING
ABOUT
MURDERS
HAPPENING
NEAR HER...

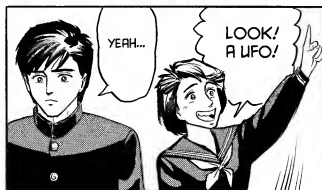


MMP
YEAH...

YOU
SURE
YOU'RE
OKAY?



YOU
REALLY
ARE OUT
OF IT.



YEAH...

LOOK!
A UFO!



YOU OVER
THAT COLD
YET?

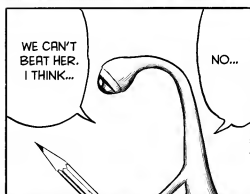
YEAH...

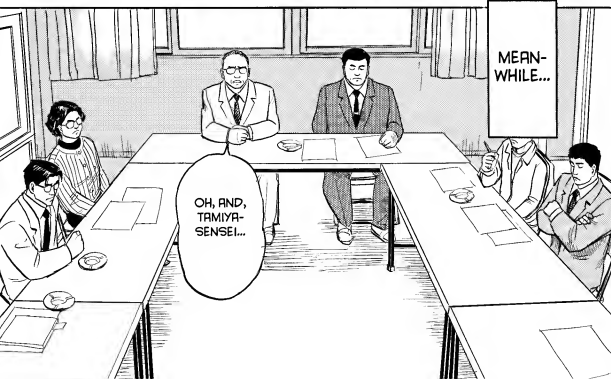


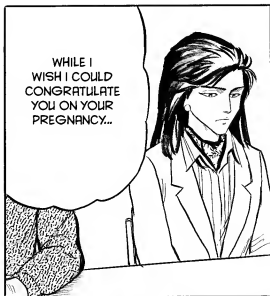
YEAH...

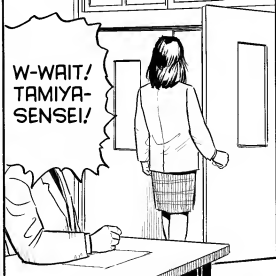
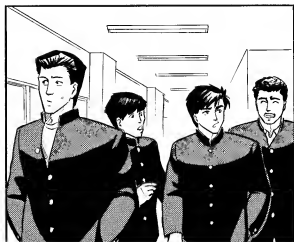
YOU'RE
REALLY
STUPID,
IZUMI.









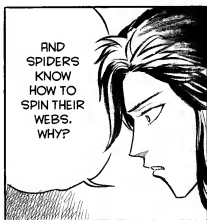






I BELIEVE...
FLIES AND
SPIDERS
ARE SIMPLY
FOLLOWING
ORDERS.

ALL LIVING
THINGS ON
EARTH ARE
RECEIVING
SOME KIND
OF ORDERS.



AND
SPIDERS
KNOW
HOW TO
SPIN THEIR
WEBS.
WHY?



WH-
WHAT?
I
DON'T...

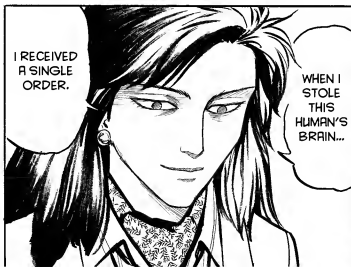


.....
EXCEPT
FOR
HUMANS?



DO YOU
FOLLOW?

WHAT
DO
YOU
MEAN?

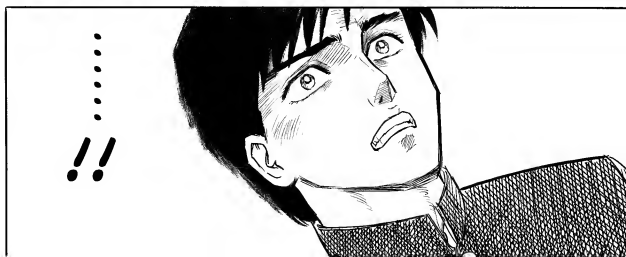


I RECEIVED
A SINGLE
ORDER.

WHEN I
STOLE
THIS
HUMAN'S
BRAIN...



WHAT DO
YOU...YOU
MEAN
GOD?

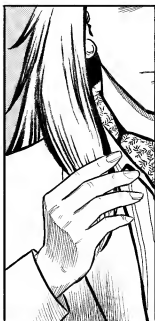




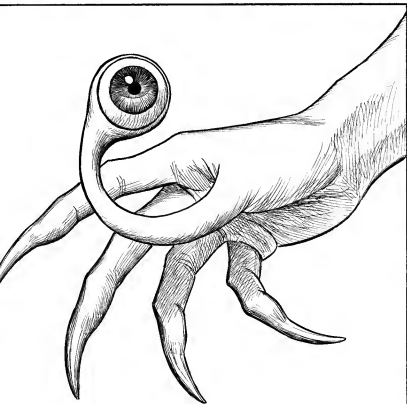
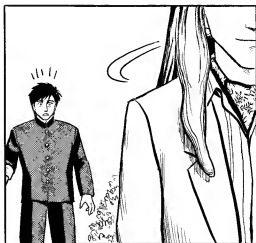
"ORDERS".....!?











CHAPTER 8: THE END



From the Monthly Afternoon Readers' page...

PARASYTE [PERFECT EDITION] 1

vol. 2



"This impressed me more than any novel or movie. Not just sci-fi horror—it made me think about the strengths and weaknesses of mankind." (Hyogo Prefecture, Ikeda Nobuo, 33, Office Worker)

"I hope they make a movie out of *Parasyte*. I think Cronenberg could do a great job with it." (Tokyo, Yuuji, 20, Student)

"Manga and movies each have their own essence and flexibility, so bad works can suddenly shine when filmed, or the other way around."

"The movies I like tend to be like a single life-form from beginning to end. Presumably the makers put their blood and bodies into it, and captured the essence of the work. Without passion, nothing good can be made." (Hitoshi Iwaaki)

(From *Afternoon*, August 1991)

"Reading *Parasyte* makes me think about human arrogance (toward nature), makes me wonder if humans are denying the fact that they are part of nature. Iwaaki-san, what do you think about artificial versus natural?"

"The word 'nature' can mean many things. In the narrowest sense of the word, then, artificial and natural are opposites. The nature we humans are trying to protect fits that narrow definition. But in the broader sense of the word, humans are part of nature. Even if we become arrogant, pollute and destroy the world, that is all part of nature."

"All we humans can do is protect nature as we would ourselves." (Hitoshi Iwaaki)

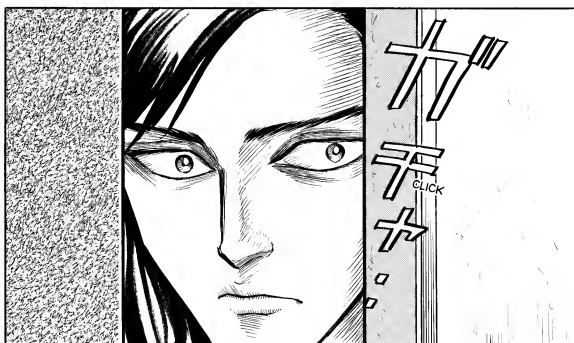
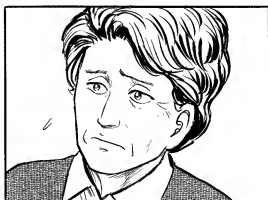
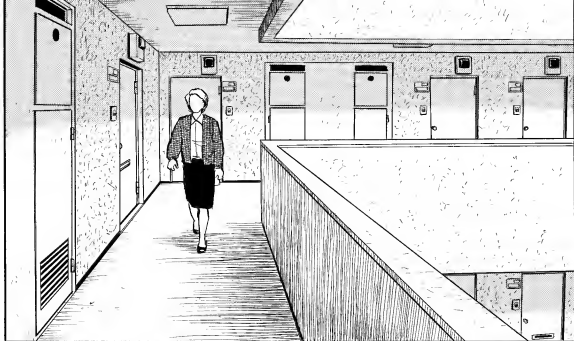
(From *Afternoon*, December 1991)

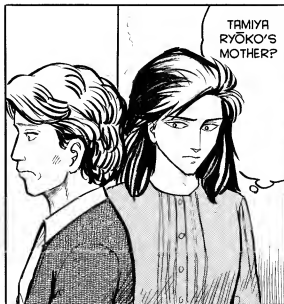


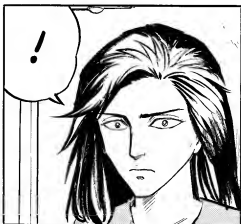
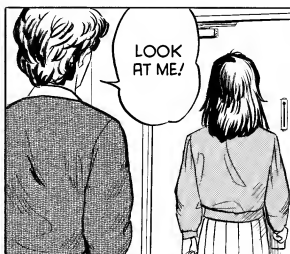
THE READERS ASK, THE AUTHOR ANSWERS

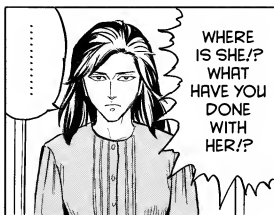
CHAPTER 9: MOTHER

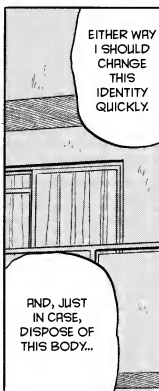
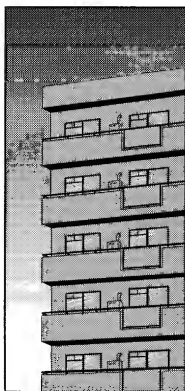














NATURALLY, THIS WAS A GREAT RELIEF TO EVERYONE, BUT A MUCH LESS NOTICEABLE NUMBER BEGAN TO RISE, THE NUMBER OF MISSING PEOPLE.

RECENTLY, THE MINCEMEAT MURDERS OCCURRING ALL OVER THE WORLD HAVE BEGUN DECREASING RAPIDLY.



THE PARASITES HAD MERELY LEARNED THAT THEY ATTRACTED FAR LESS ATTENTION, AND WERE SAFER, IF THEY MADE IT LOOK LIKE A DISAPPEARANCE INSTEAD OF LEAVING REMAINS LYING AROUND.

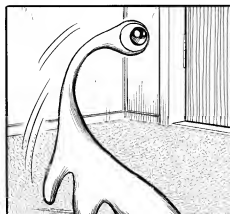
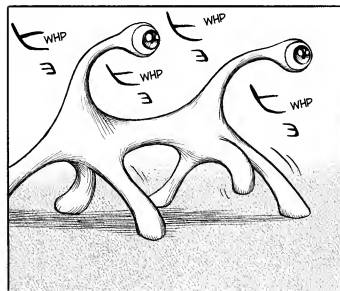
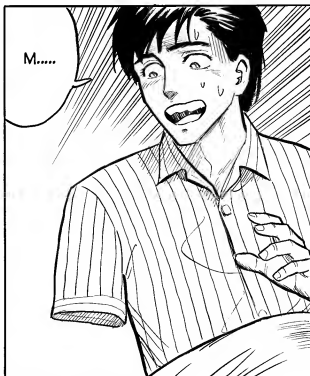
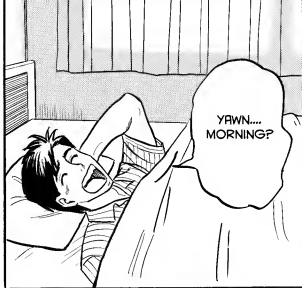


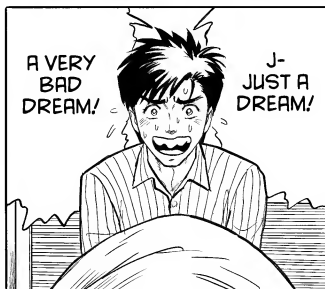
IN REALITY, NOTHING HAD CHANGED AT ALL.

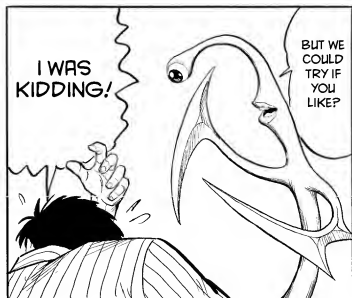
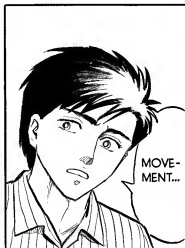
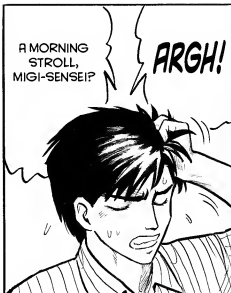
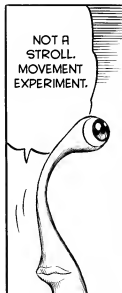


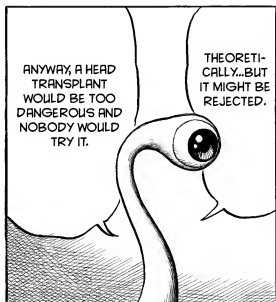
SOME-
TIMES
THEY
COOPER-
ATED...

ALWAYS
AIMING
FOR
HUMANS
MOVING
ALONE.

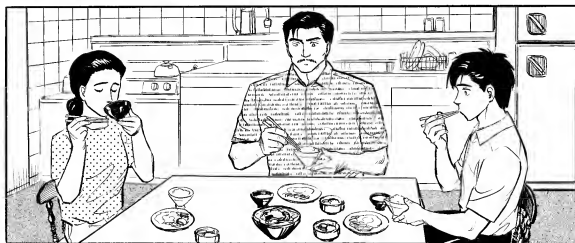
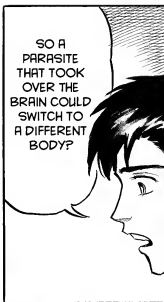








THEORETICALLY...BUT IT MIGHT BE REJECTED.



THE MOTHER, NOBUKO (40) HOUSE-WIFE



THE FATHER, KAZUYUKI (44) FORMER MAGAZINE WRITER, NOW FREELANCE.

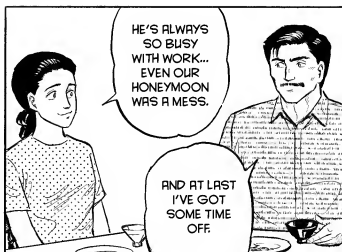


IZUMI SHINICHI (16) 11TH GRADE



...SEEMS SO DANGEROUS.

BUT A VACATION...



HE'S ALWAYS SO BUSY WITH WORK... EVEN OUR HONEYMOON WAS A MESS.

AND AT LAST I'VE GOT SOME TIME OFF.



WANDERING AROUND A STRANGE PLACE AT A TIME LIKE THIS IS...

THERE AREN'T THAT MANY... THAT WE KNOW ABOUT!



THOSE WERE MOSTLY IN THE CITIES, AND THERE AREN'T THAT MANY ANY MORE. I'M NOT WORRIED.

THE MINCEMEAT MURDERS?



NOT THAT! THEY....

THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN!

CLUNK

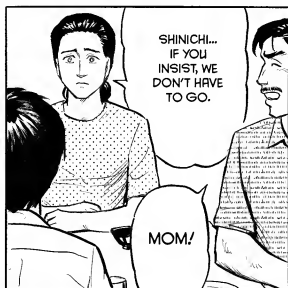


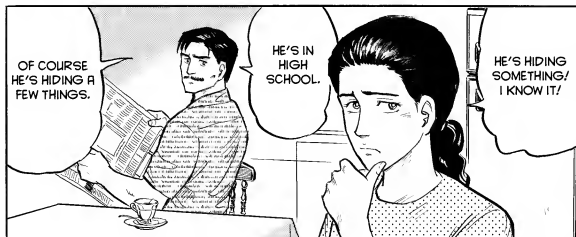
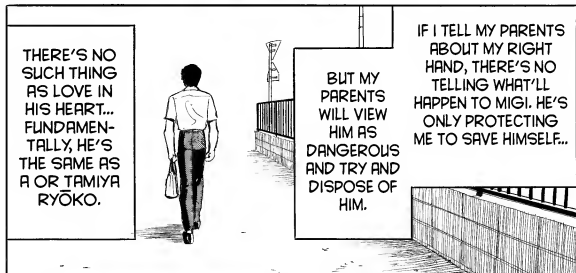
YOU'RE AGAINST IT?

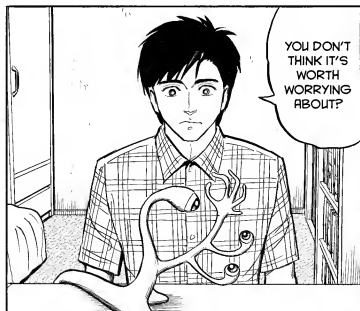
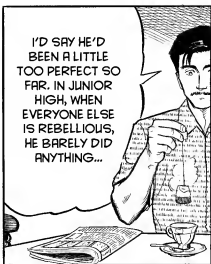
YEAH.



AT YOUR AGE, YOU'RE GONNA MISS US?









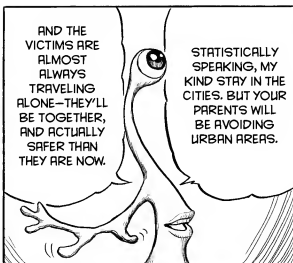
GUESS I
SHOULDN'T
HAVE
OBJECTED...

CLICK

???



OH.



AND THE
VICTIMS ARE
ALMOST
ALWAYS
TRAVELING
ALONE—THEY'LL
BE TOGETHER,
AND ACTUALLY
SAFER THAN
THEY ARE NOW.

STATISTICALLY
SPEAKING, MY
KIND STAY IN THE
CITIES. BUT YOUR
PARENTS WILL
BE AVOIDING
URBAN AREAS.



WH-
WH-
WHAT!?



SHINICHI!

AAAAH
HHH!!



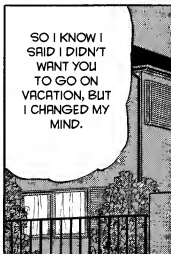
WHAT
DO YOU
WANT!?

M-
MYSELF!



WHO
WERE
YOU
TALKING
TO?







AND NOW
YOU CHANGE
YOUR MIND
COMPLETELY?
DON'T YOU
CARE ABOUT
US ANYMORE?

YOU WERE
VIOLENTLY
AGAINST IT
THIS MORNING!
WHAT WAS THAT
ABOUT!?



JESUS!
WHERE'D
THIS
COME
FROM!?



THAT'S...
THAT'S
NOT...



LIKE YOU
AREN'T
MINE...

LIKE...

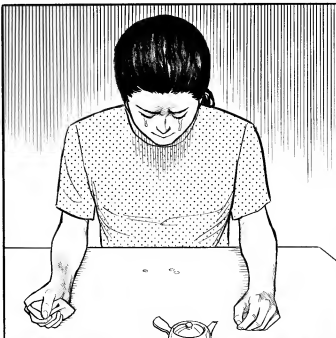


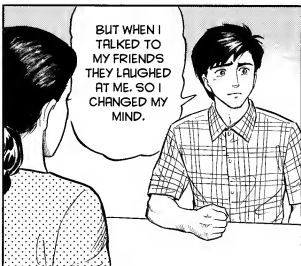
NOBUKO!

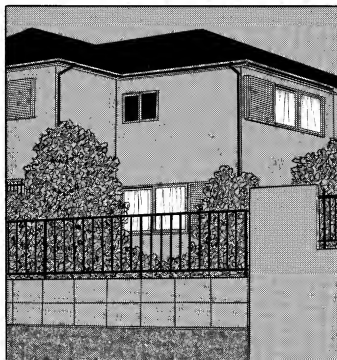


THERE'S...
THERE'S
SOME-
THING
DIFFERENT!

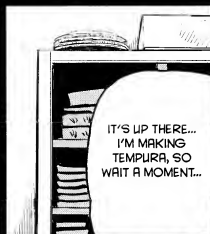
I DON'T
UNDERSTAND
ANYTHING
ABOUT YOU!







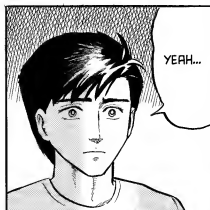
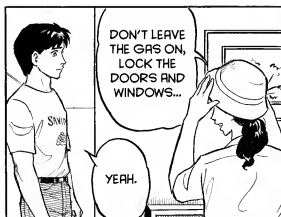












PARASYTE 1: THE END

TRANSLATION NOTES

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more an art than a science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.



Catalog, page 38

Shinichi's mother is reading a furniture catalog here. Mail-order furniture is much more popular in Japan than in America, and most people order all their furniture from catalogs.



Run-together text, page 42

When the parasite repeats the news in the original Japanese, he doesn't use any kanji characters. The implication is that he is mouthing the sounds of the language without registering their meaning.



More polite than it looks, page 46

I've replaced the original line here. Migi's choice of personal pronouns has shifted from the rough, common *ore* to the polite, formal *watashi*. In the original Japanese, Shinichi comments that the polite *watashi* doesn't match Migi's face.

Tsukahara Bokuden, page 56

Tsukahara Bokuden (name given in Japanese order, 1489–1571) was a famed swordsman of the Sengoku Warring States Period.



Migi, page 66

The word *migi* means "right." *Parasyte* was first published in English by TokyoPop in a now-out-of-print edition that "flipped" the original Japanese artwork so that it would read left to right—which meant that the parasite had to be named "Lefty"! This Del Rey reissue restores the original orientation, but even now that *Migi* is again truly on the right side, "Righty" just doesn't sound right!



Killer's aura, page 117

The title of this chapter, "Satsuki," is a great word that we just don't have in English. Just before a human kills another, they emit *satsuki*, which skilled fighters can sense. Later in the chapter this is shown as an insect hovering behind them. I've translated this phrase as "killer's aura."



Pain, pages 124, 141, 214

Both Migi and the lion killer use the same expression, *itagariya*, for someone who feels pain easily.

Recap, page 143

Parasyte began serialization in *Morning* (possibly *Morning Special*) magazine and changed to *Afternoon* magazine a few issues later, presumably with this issue. Hence the opening recap.



Roaches, page 152

Japanese roaches are really, really big. They also fly. When you try to kill them, they fly right into your face, so you scream and fall over and give them time to get away. Very effective technique.

Spoiled, page 153

The original Japanese line—*ojou-sama sodachi*—implies that Mom was raised by upper-class parents, hence her fear of roaches. It also implies that even though she's a mother now, she still hasn't fully adjusted to her new life.



Tempura oil, page 269

That isn't water, but boiling oil. Far more dangerous. Tempura is breaded and deep-fried vegetables and shrimp, usually more delicate than greasy. Try it sometime!





PREVIEW OF VOLUME 2

We're pleased to present you with a preview of Volume 2. This volume will be available in English on July 31, 2007, but for now you'll have to make do with the Japanese!



これ以上
しゃべり
やがると
このまま
切り落とすぞ!!



シ……!!



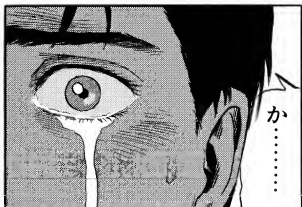
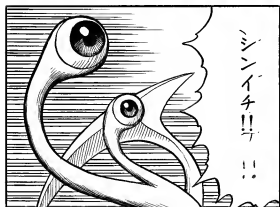
覚えてるよね
……
その手の
火傷……



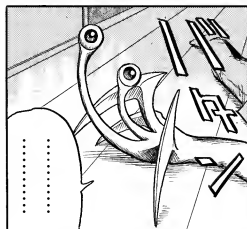
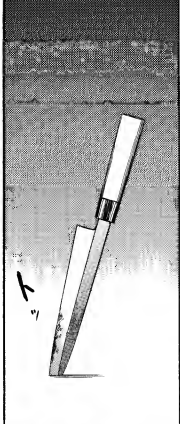
……
かあさん……



かあさん







TOMARE!



STOP

YOU'RE GOING THE WRONG WAY!

**MANGA IS A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT TYPE
OF READING EXPERIENCE.**

**TO START AT THE BEGINNING,
GO TO THE END!**

THAT'S RIGHT!

**AUTHENTIC MANGA IS READ THE TRADITIONAL JAPANESE WAY—
FROM RIGHT TO LEFT, EXACTLY THE OPPOSITE OF HOW AMERICAN
BOOKS ARE READ. IT'S EASY TO FOLLOW: JUST GO TO THE OTHER
END OF THE BOOK, AND READ EACH PAGE—AND EACH PANEL—
FROM RIGHT SIDE TO LEFT SIDE, STARTING AT THE TOP RIGHT.
NOW YOU'RE EXPERIENCING MANGA AS IT WAS MEANT TO BE.**

***Parasyte* volume 1**

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

STORY AND ART BY HITOSHI IWAAKI

Parasyte volume 1 copyright © 1990 HITOSHI IWAAKI

English translation copyright © 2015 HITOSHI IWAAKI

All rights reserved.

First published in Japan in 1990 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.
Electronic Publishing rights for this English edition arranged through
Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

No portion of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or
by any means without written permission from the copyright holders.

English digital edition published by Kodansha Advanced Media, LLC,
San Francisco.

www.kodanshacomics.com

ISBN: 9781682331231

Digital Edition: 1.0.0

Translator/adaptor: Andrew Cunningham
Lettering: Foltz Design